

Urusei Vatsura Yatsura



Story & Art by RUMIKO TAKAHASHI



Urusei Yatsura

Part 19



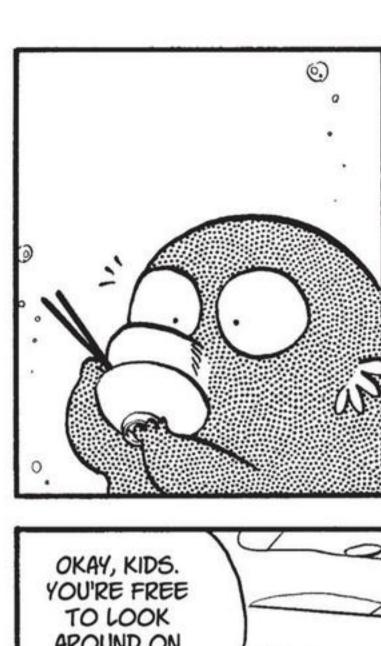
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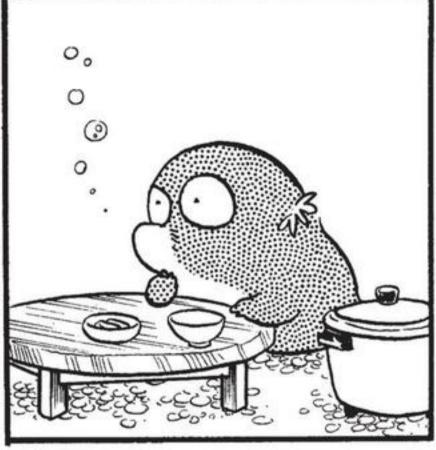
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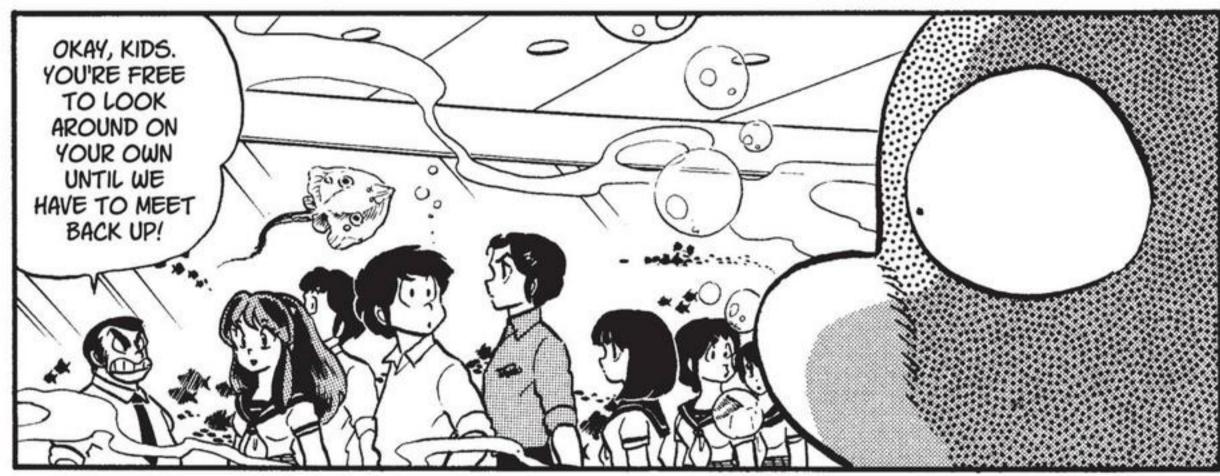






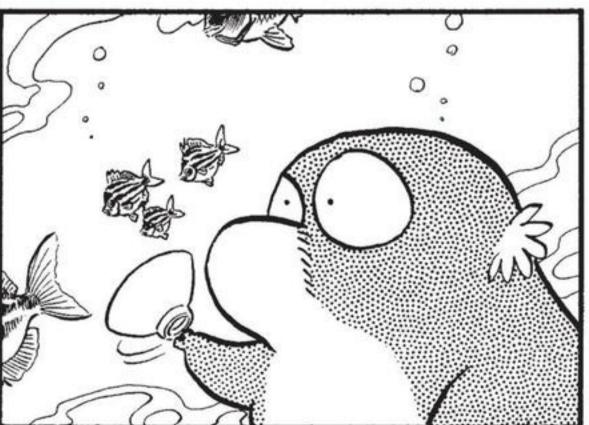








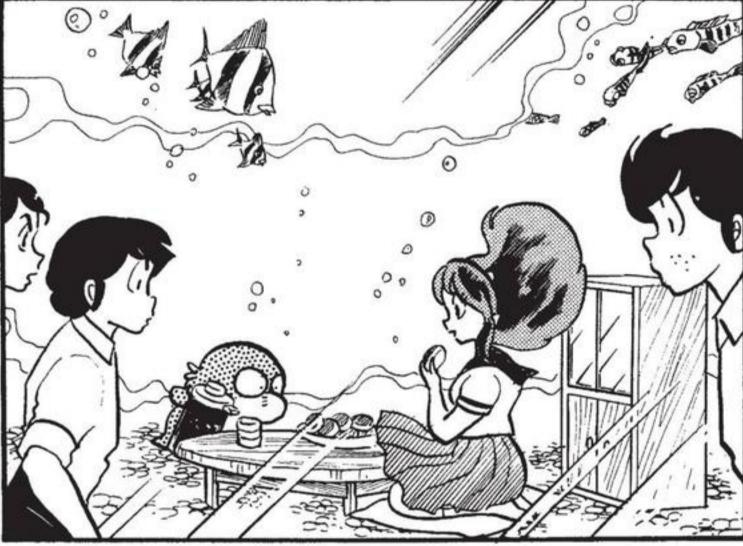












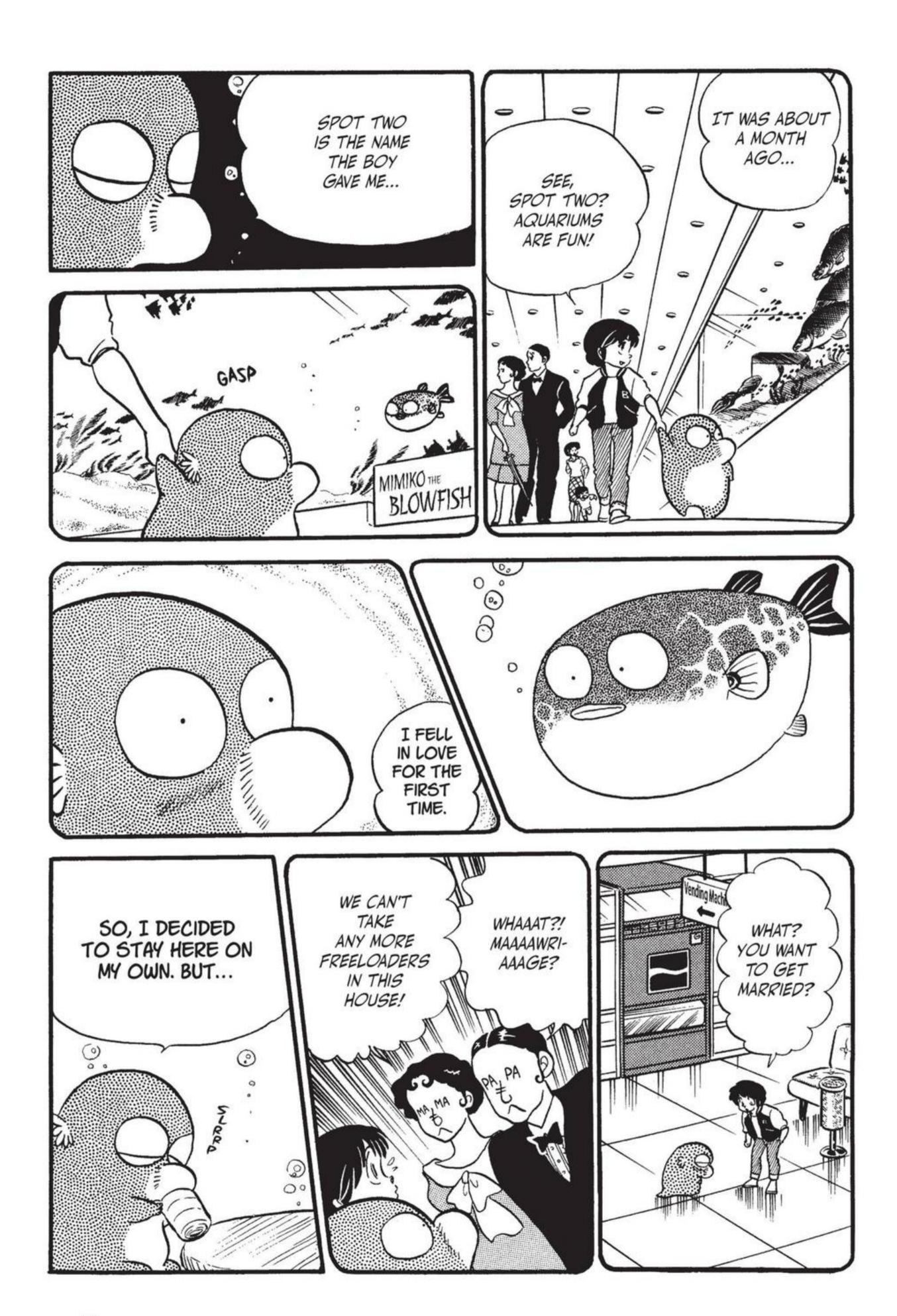




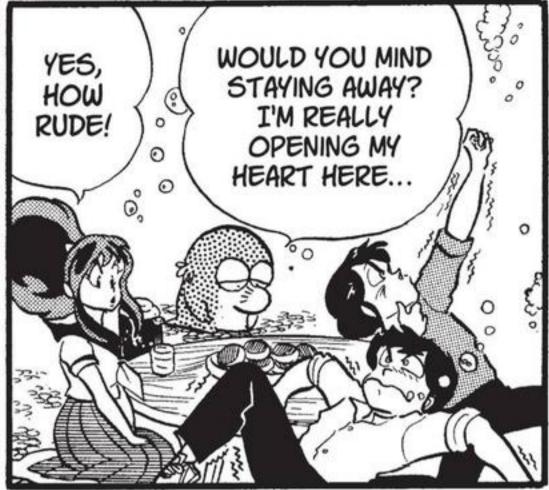


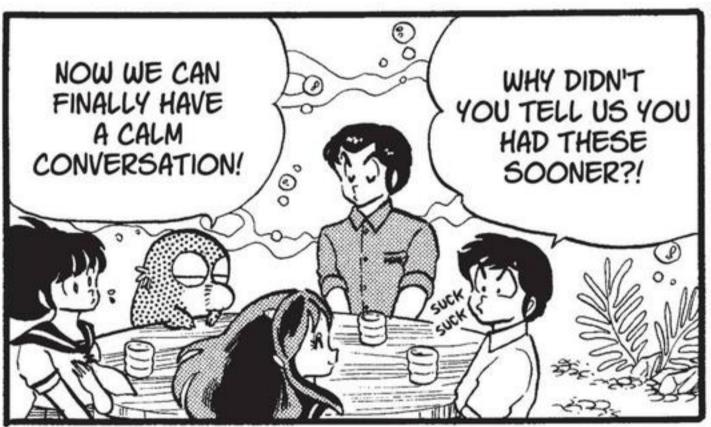




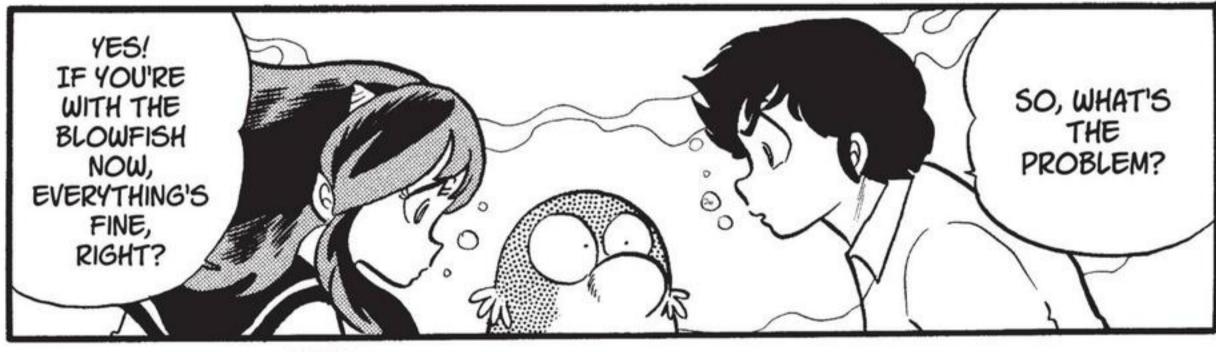




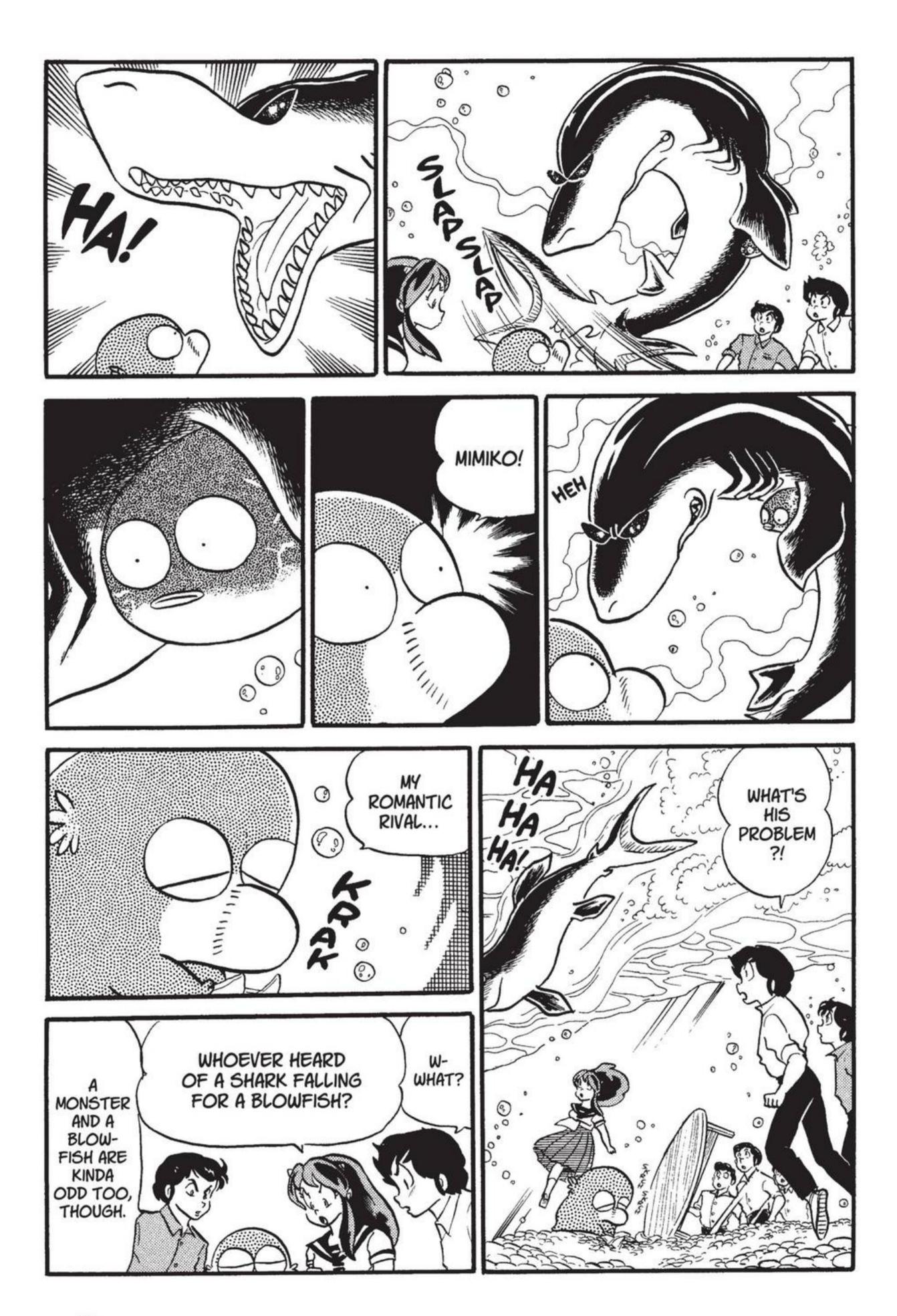








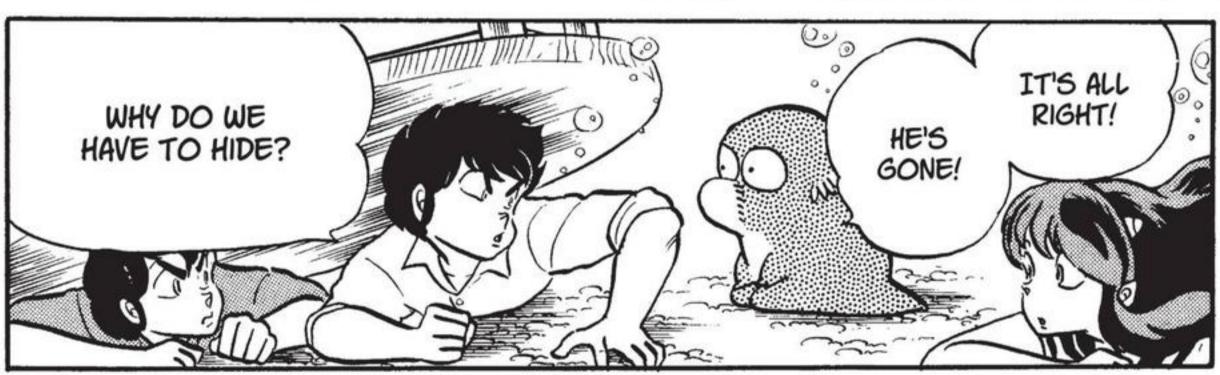


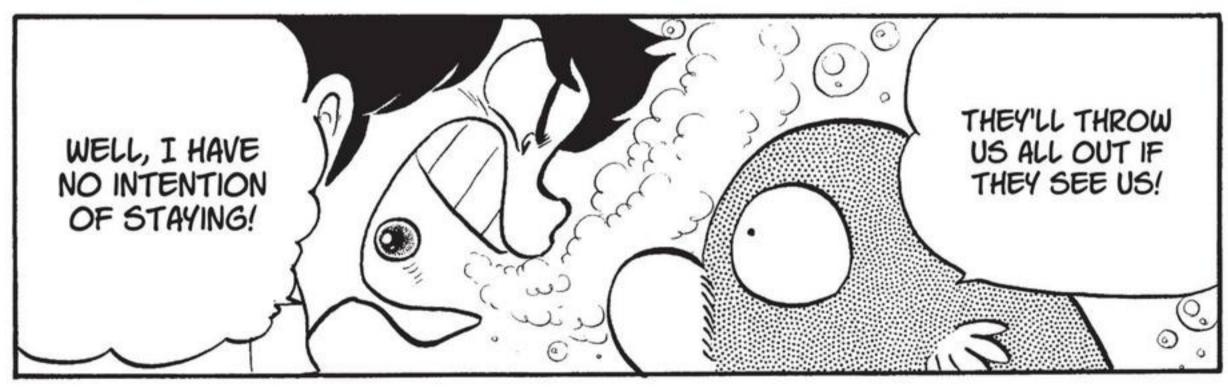


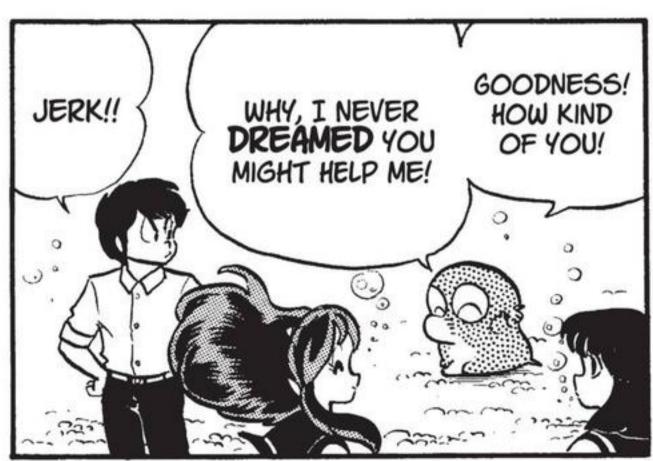


















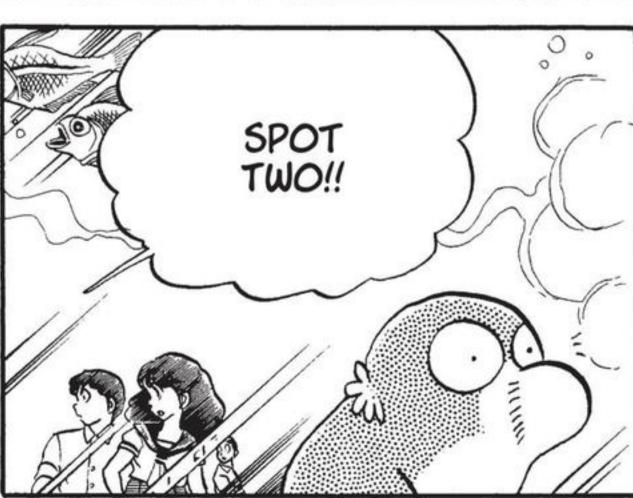










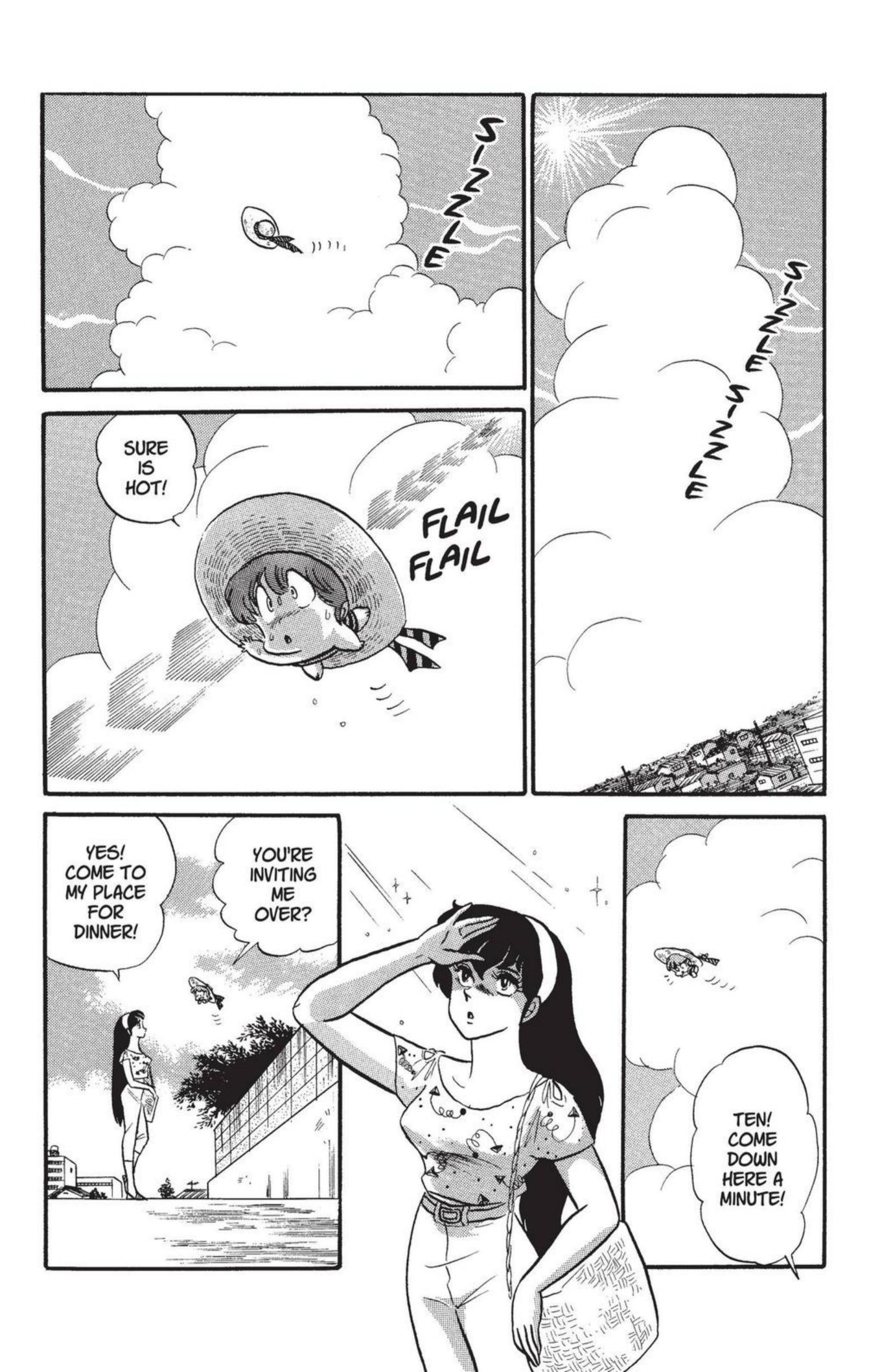




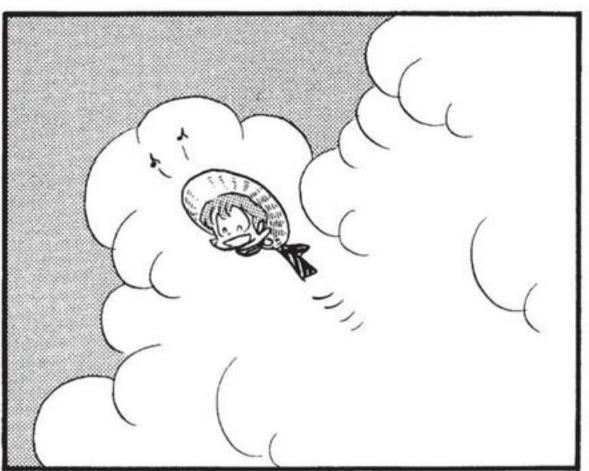


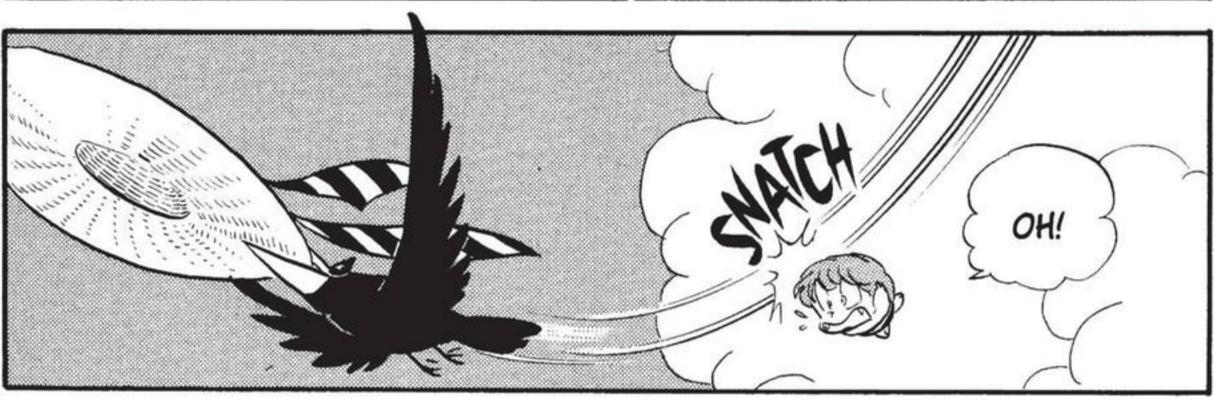
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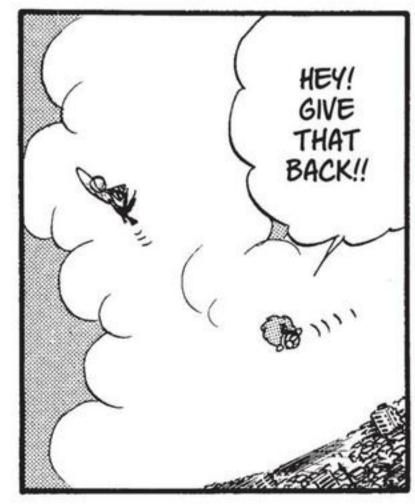




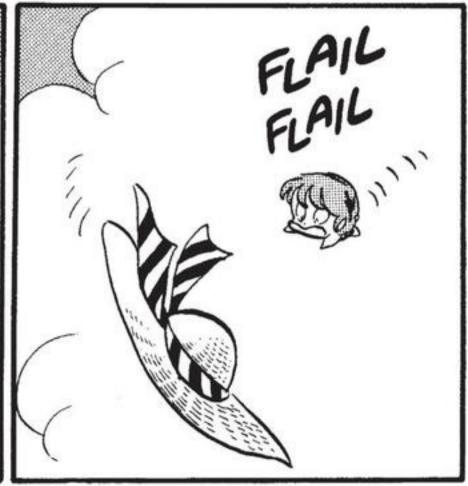




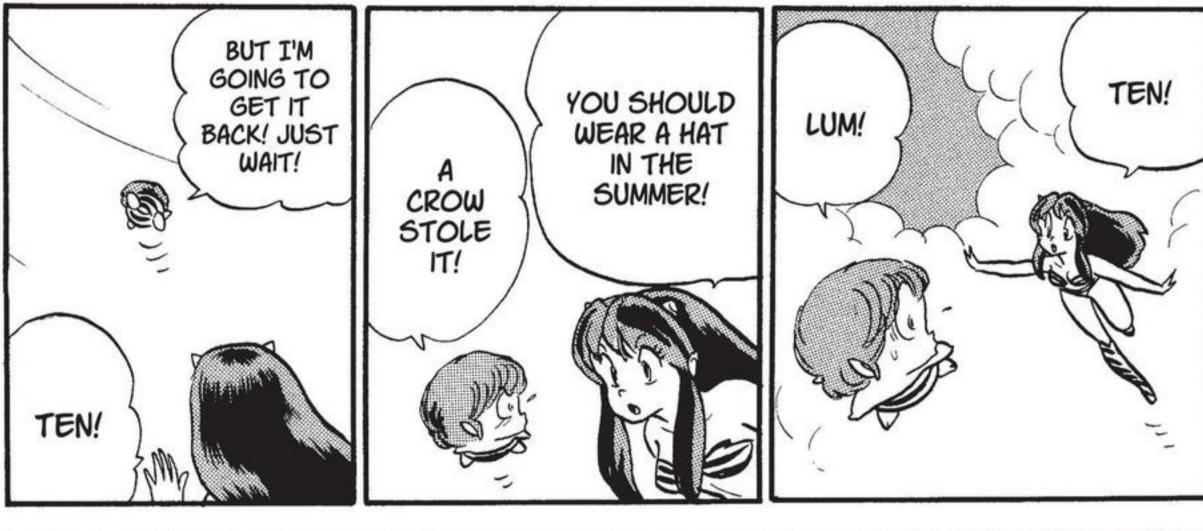


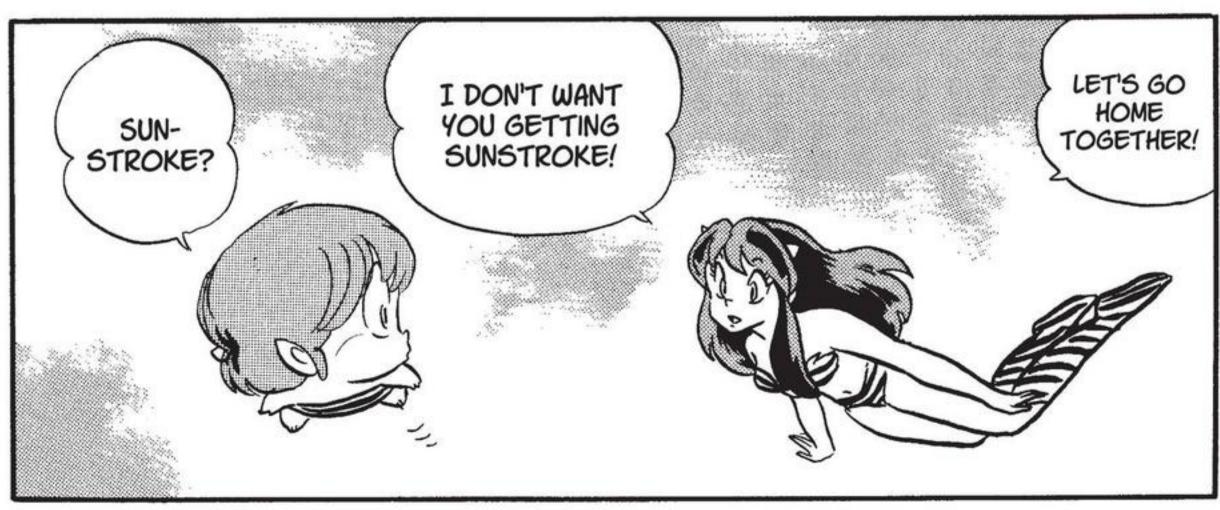


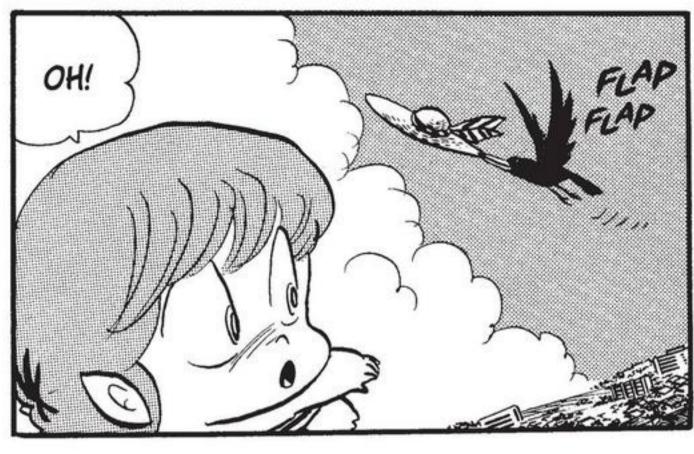








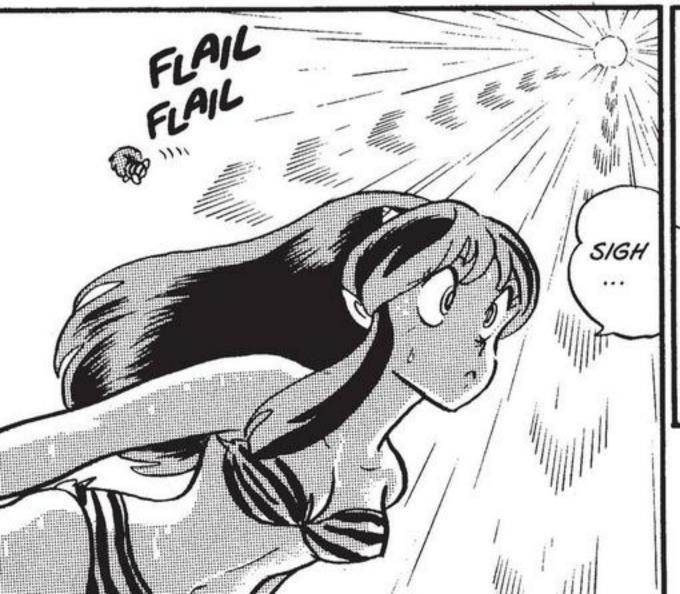


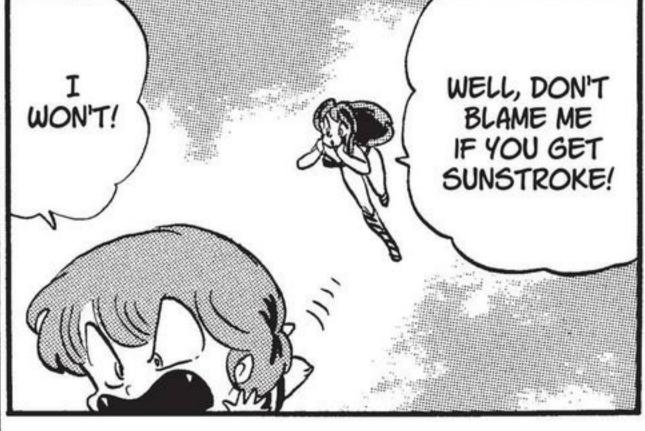






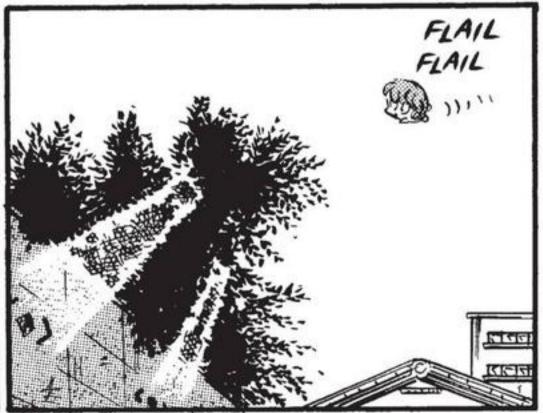


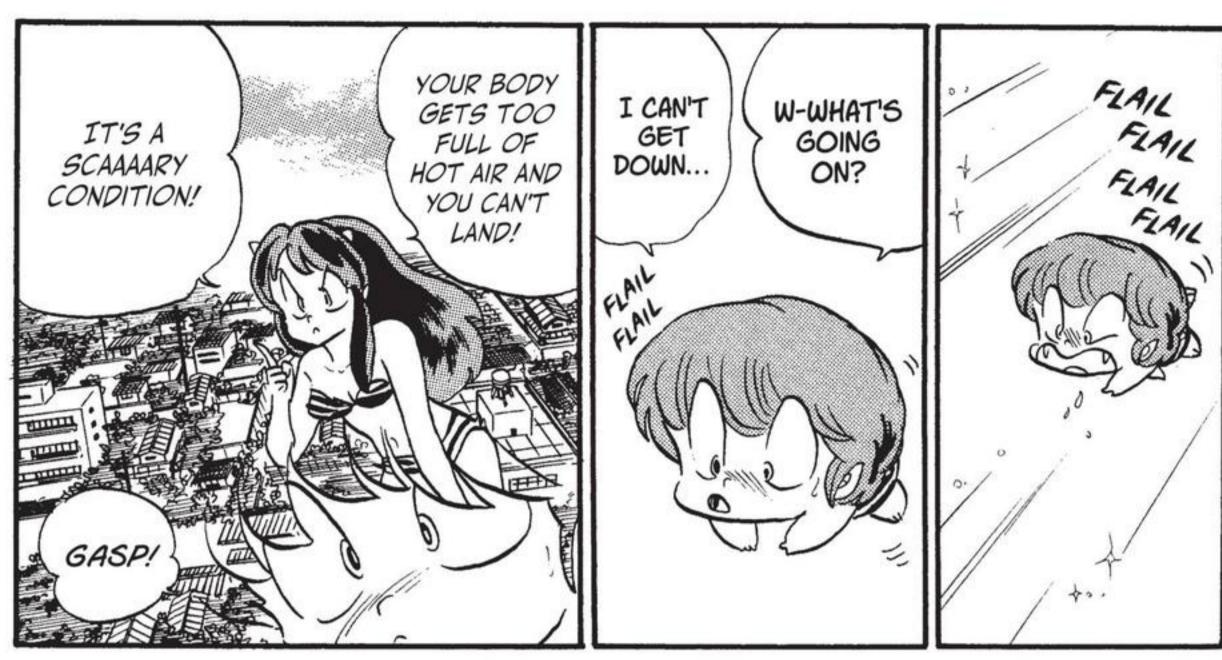




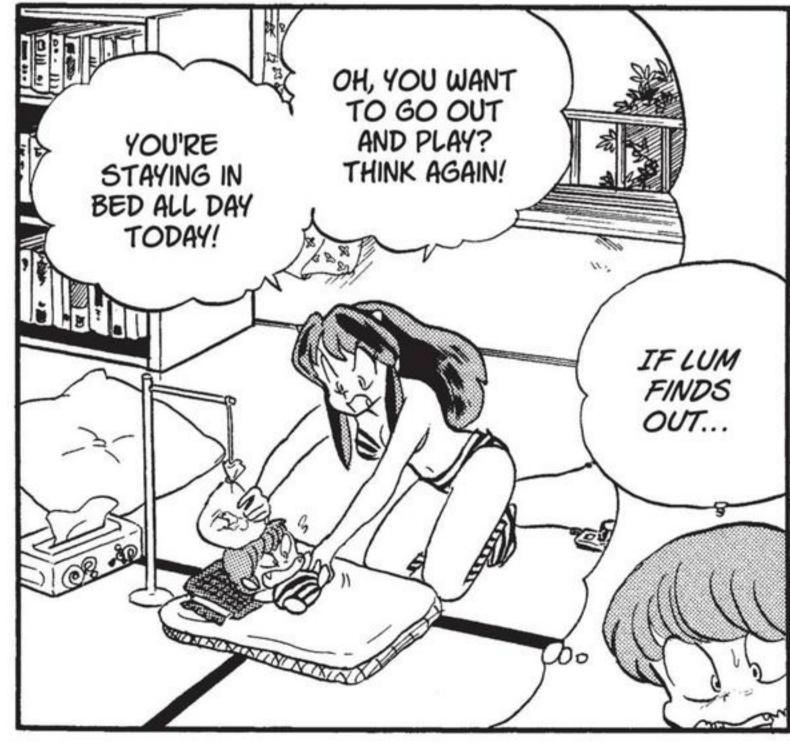






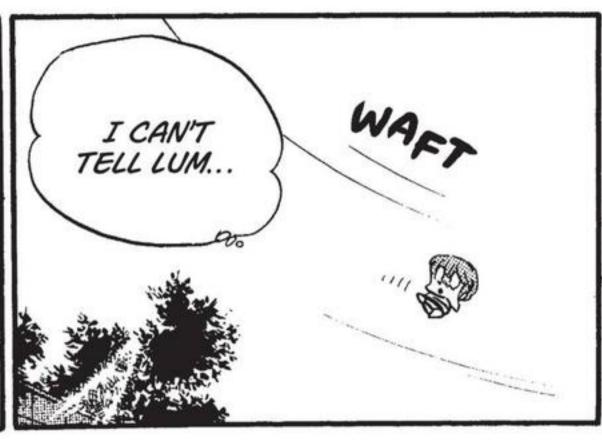


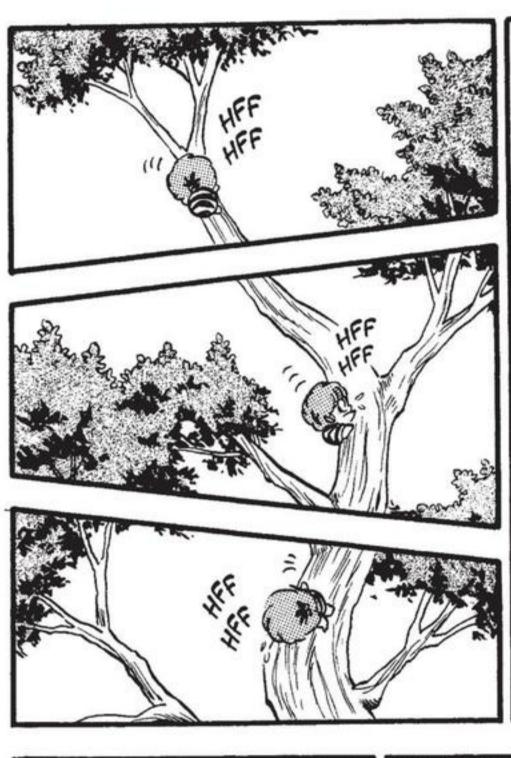




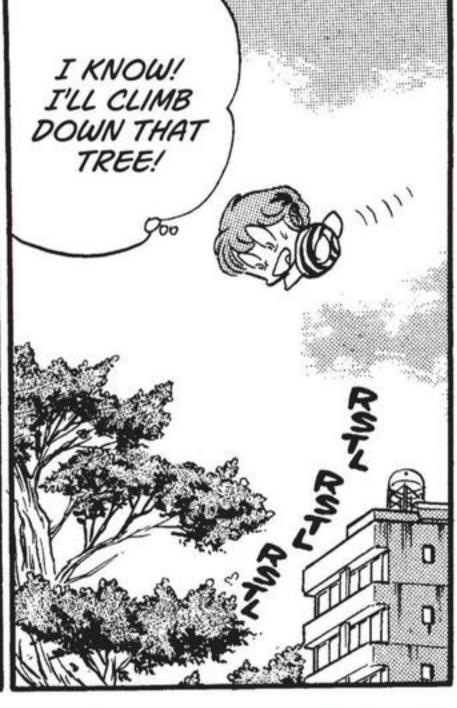








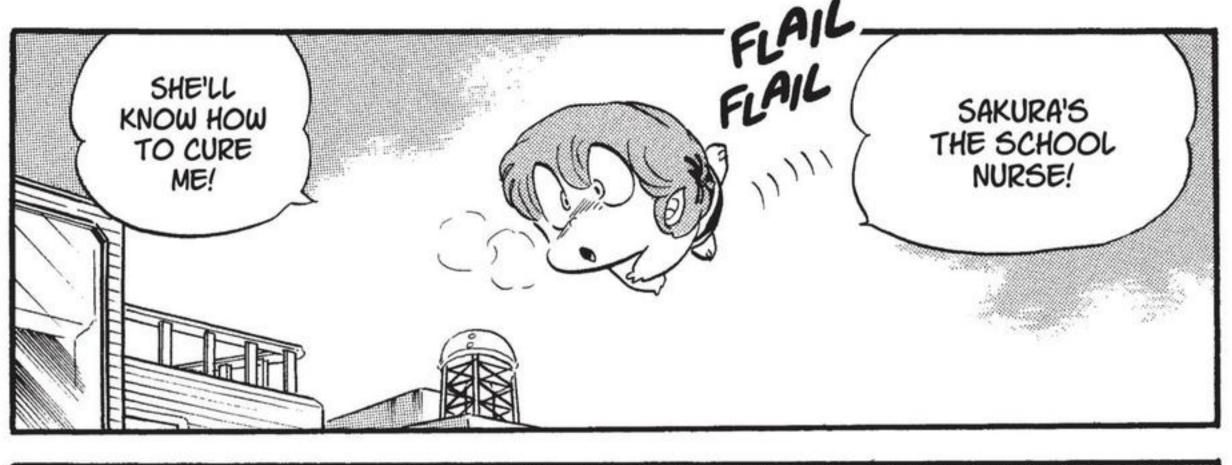












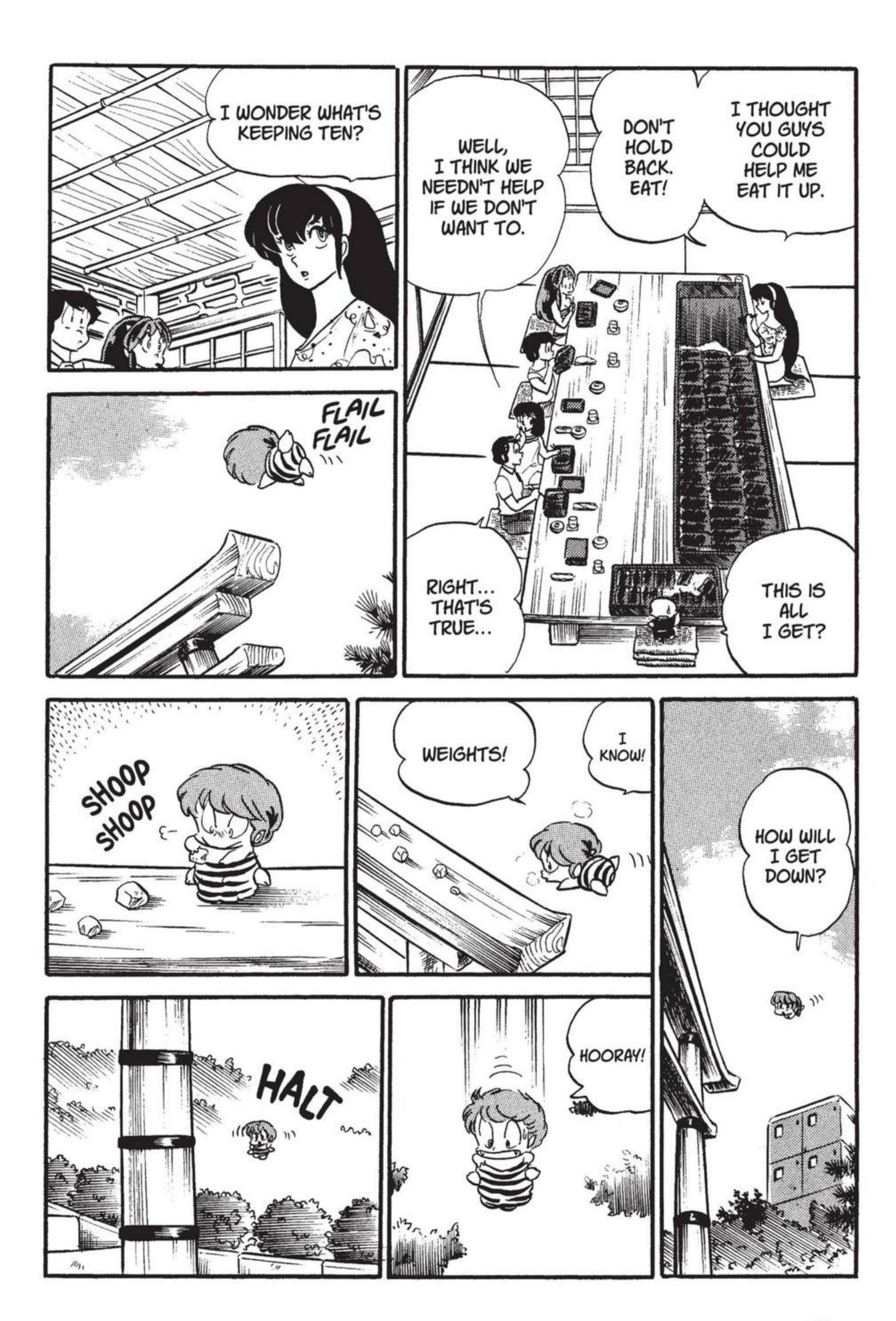




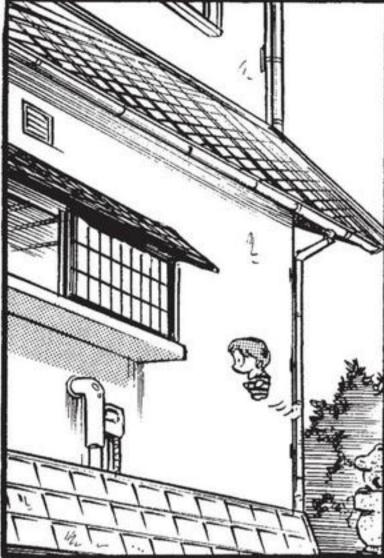






























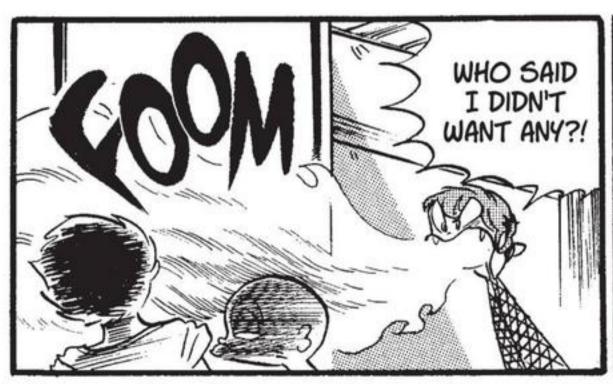










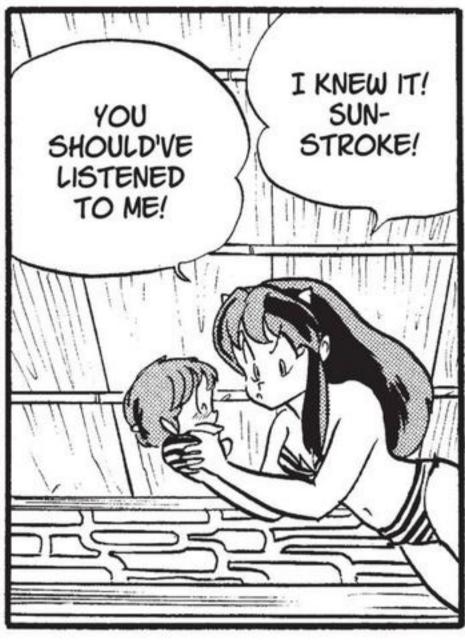




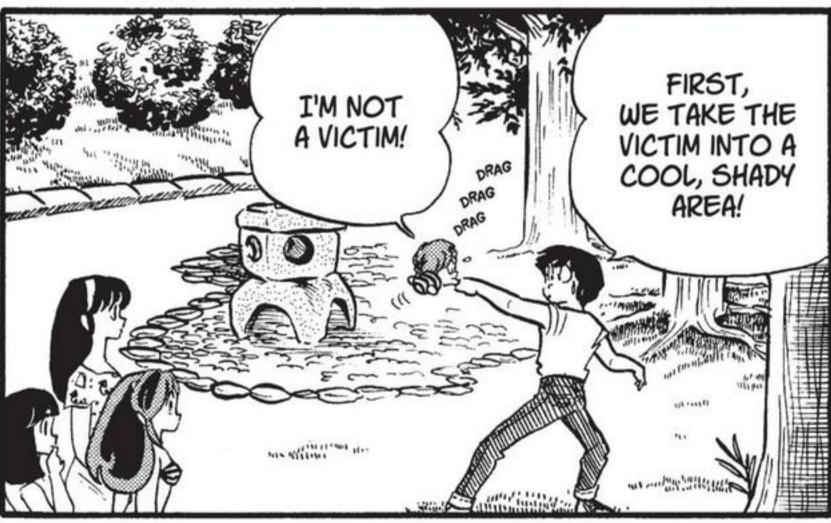










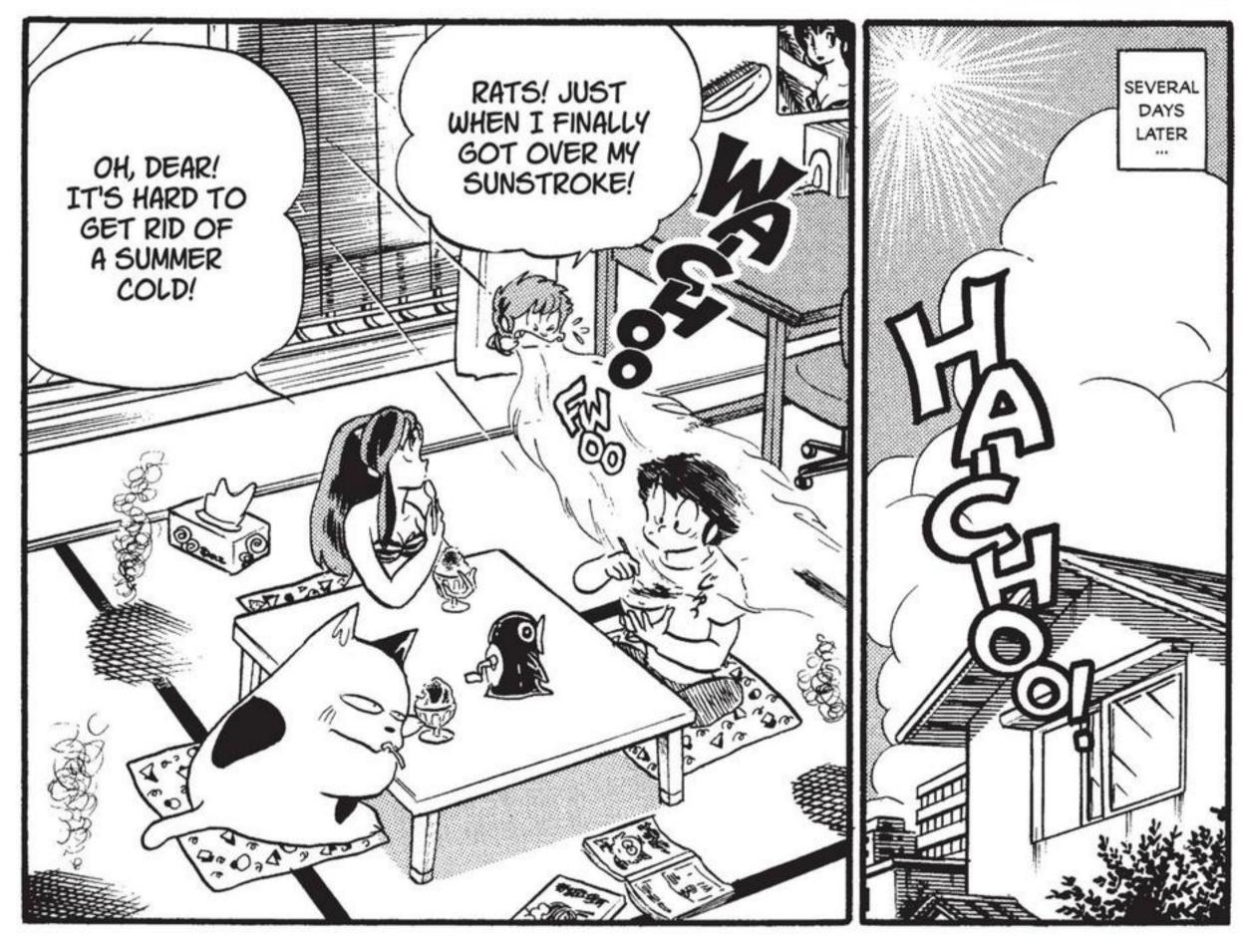






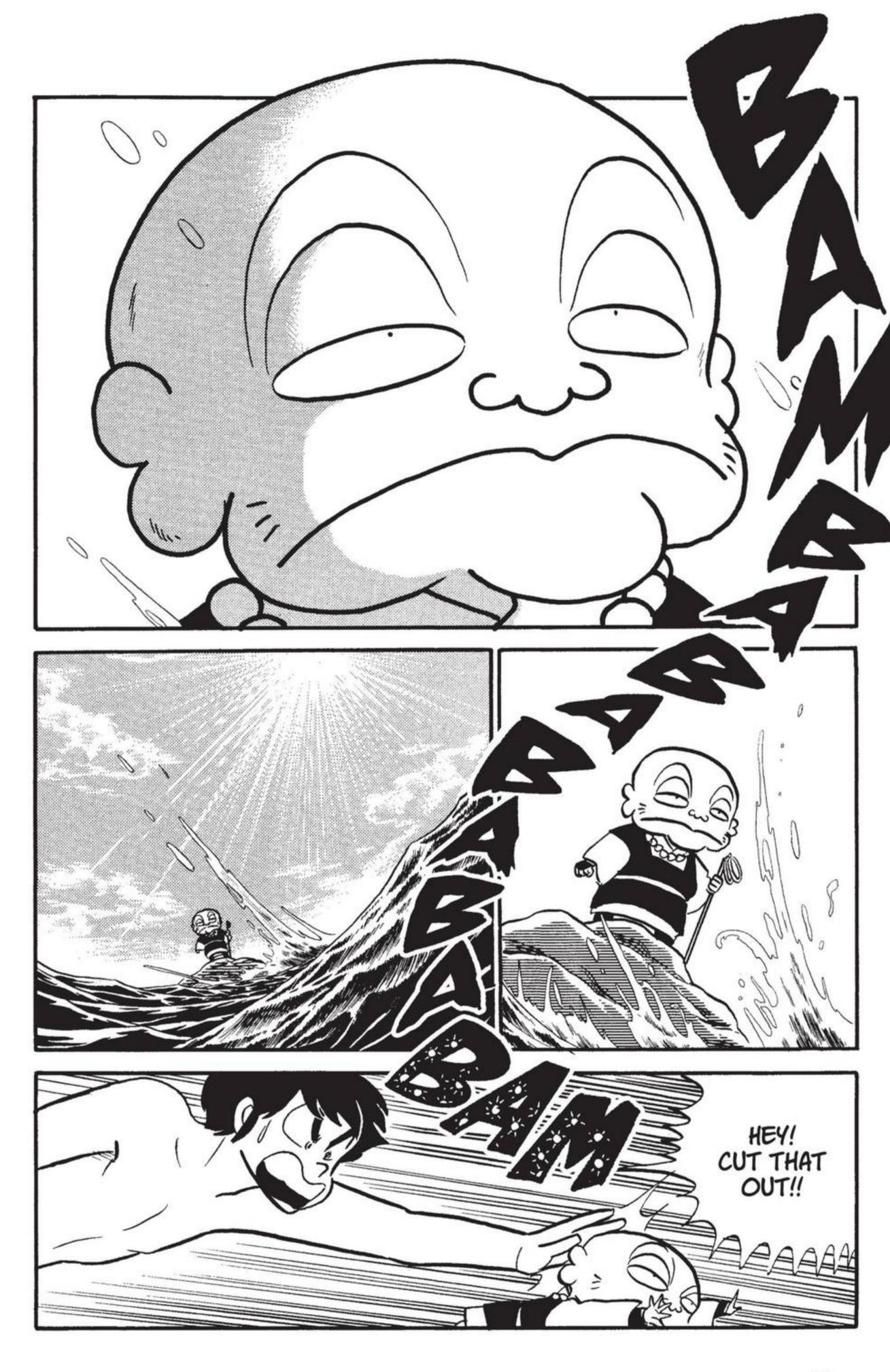


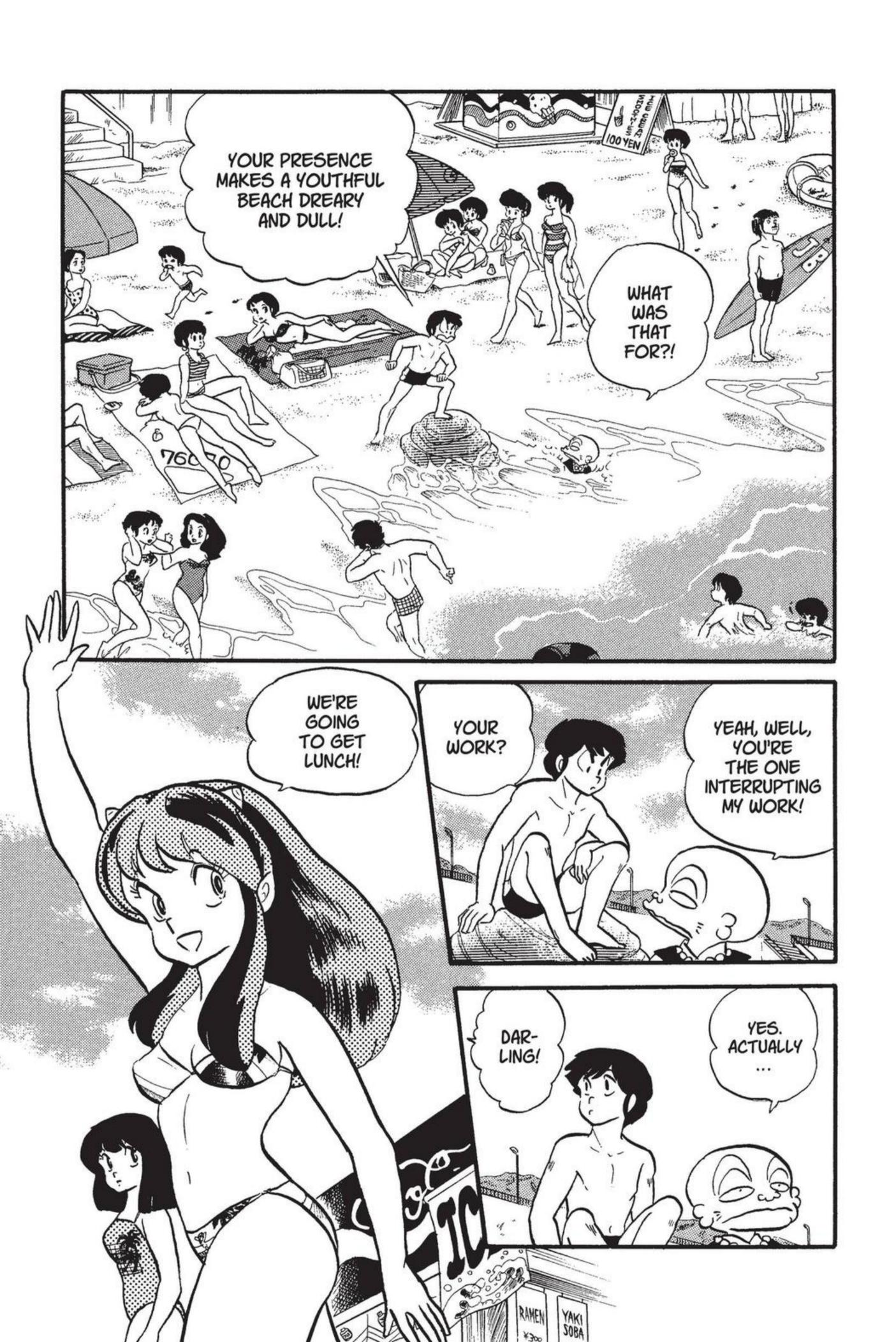




CHAPTER 3: MOTHER ON THE ROCKS

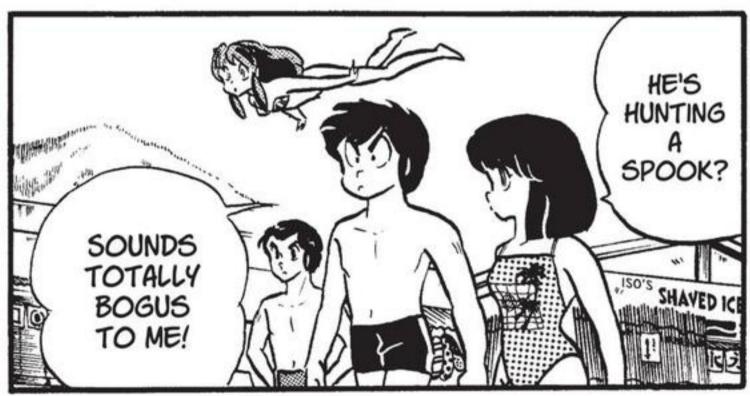




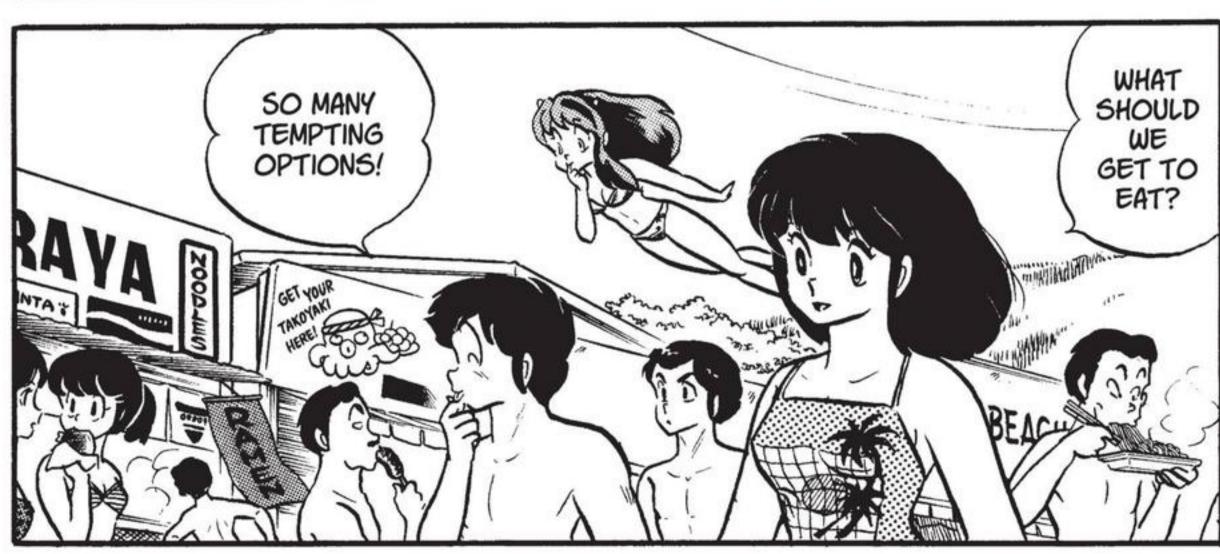


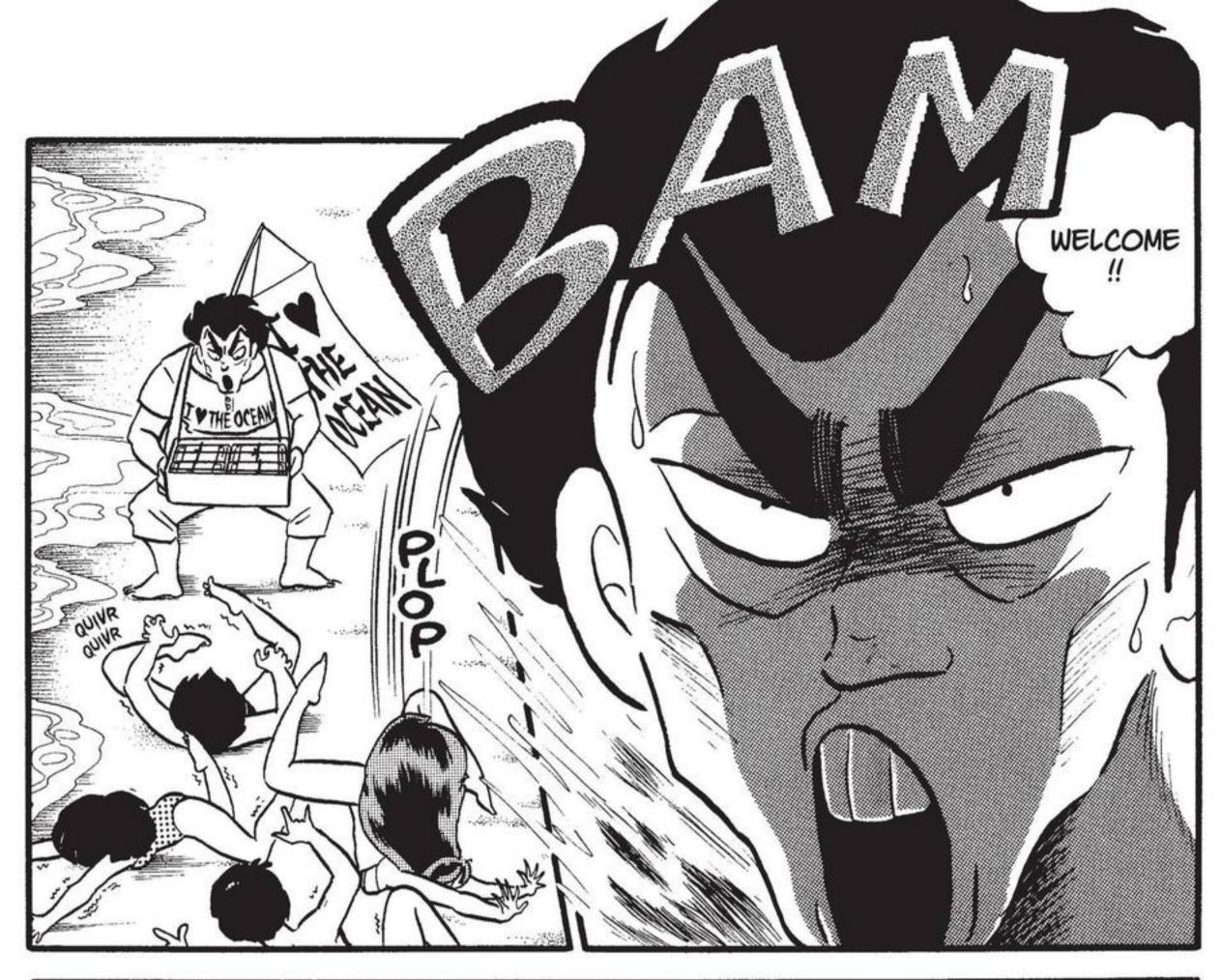




















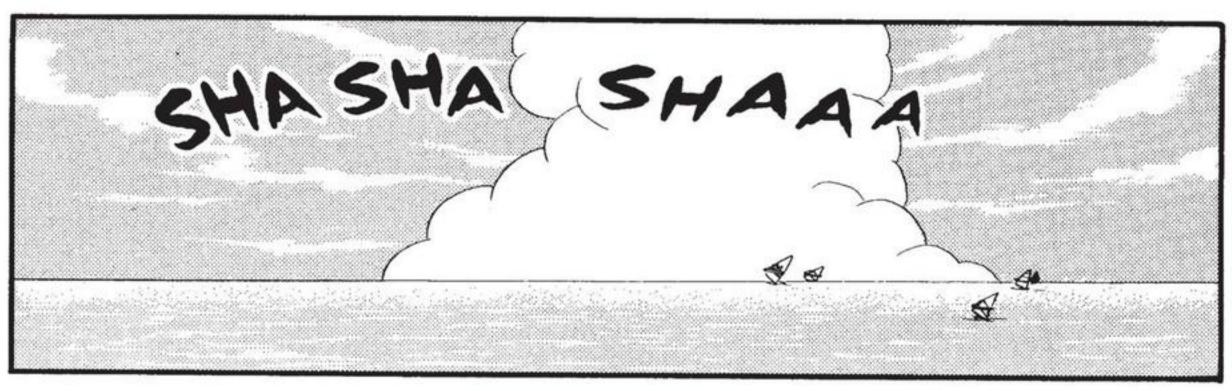




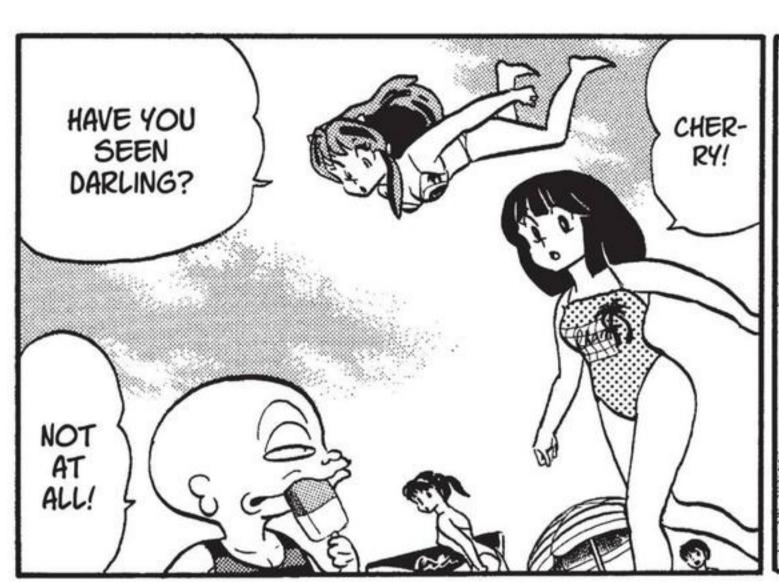




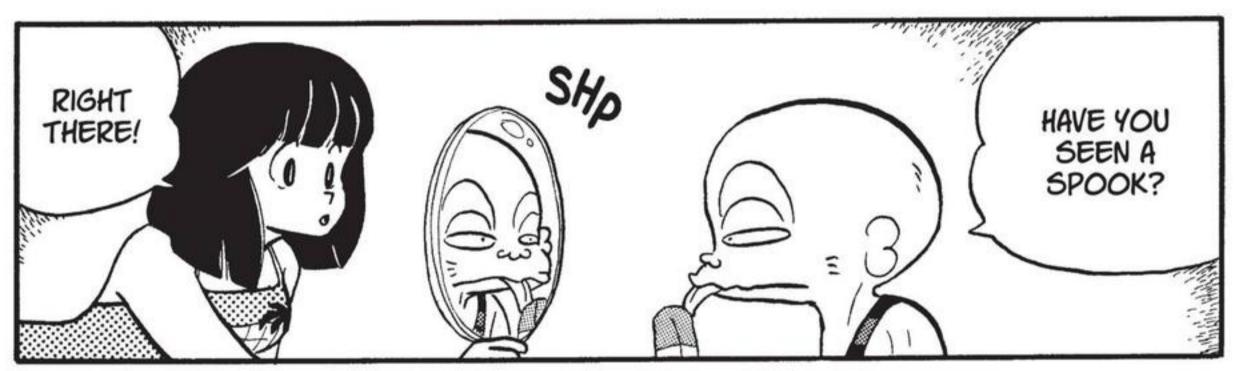




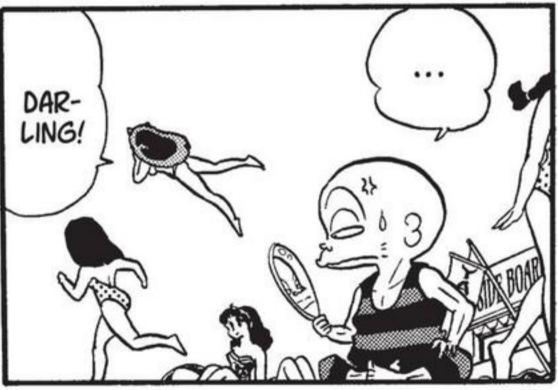


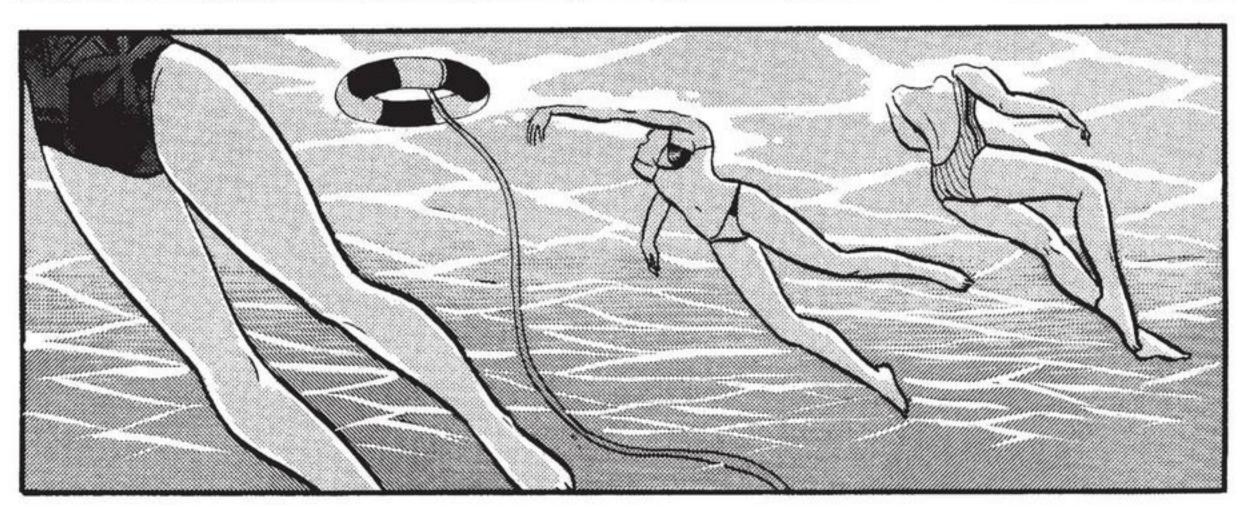






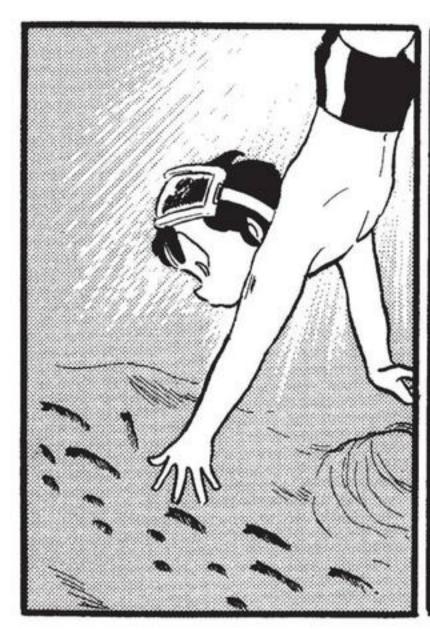








































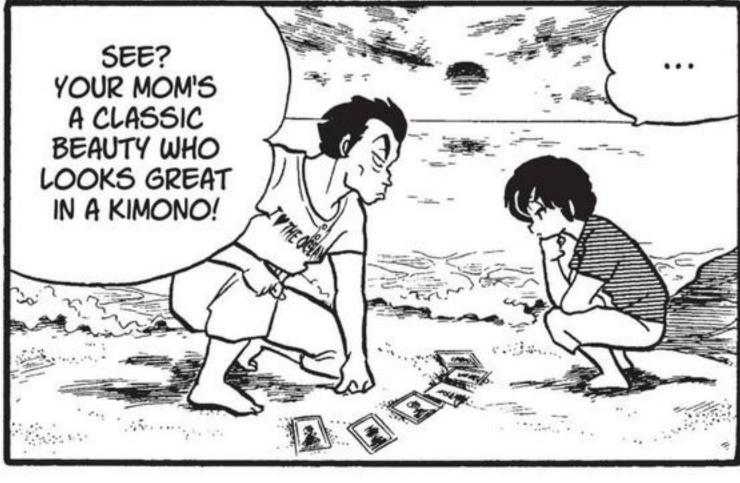








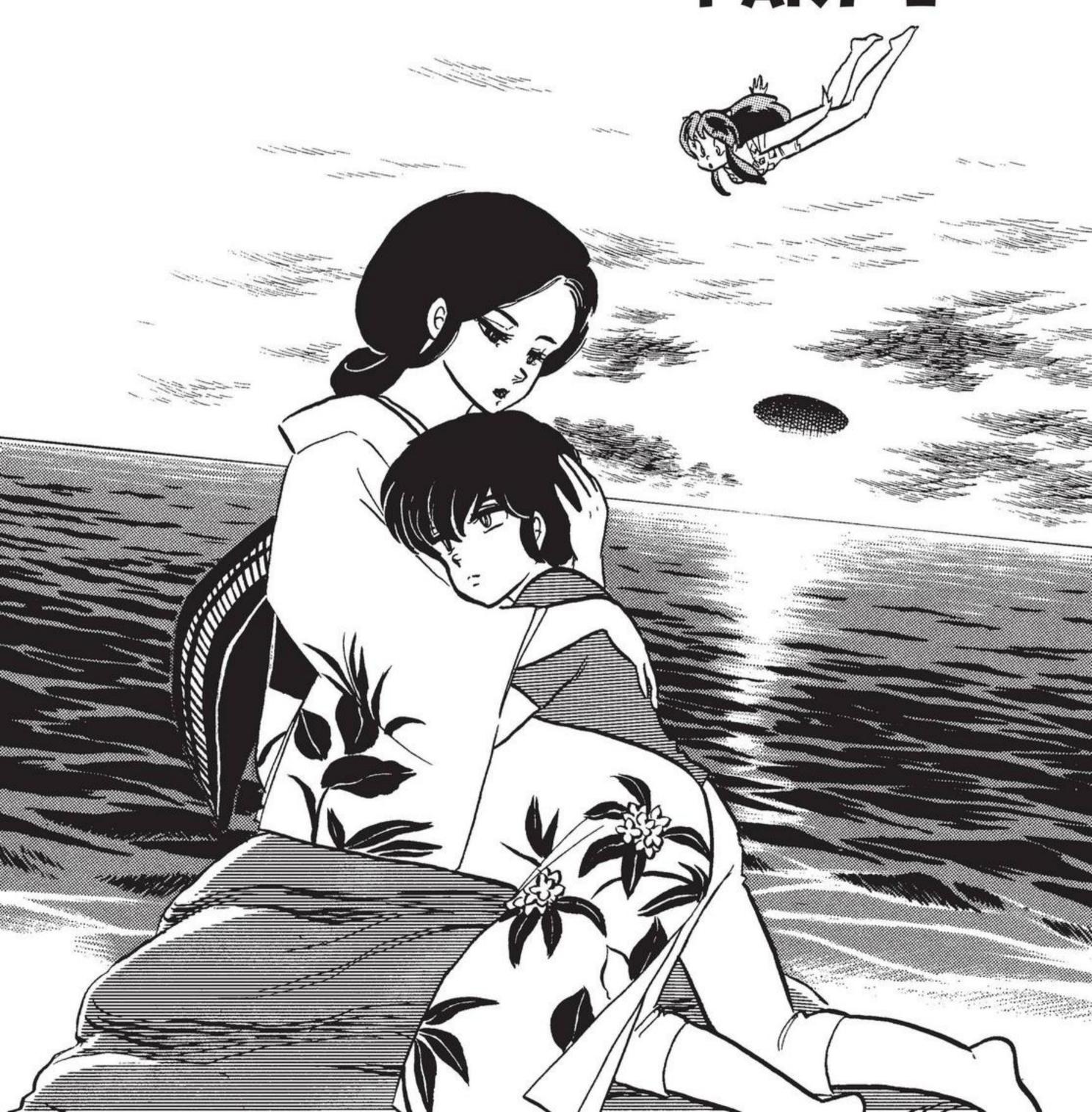






CHAPTER 4: MOTHER ON THE ROCKS

- PART 2 -





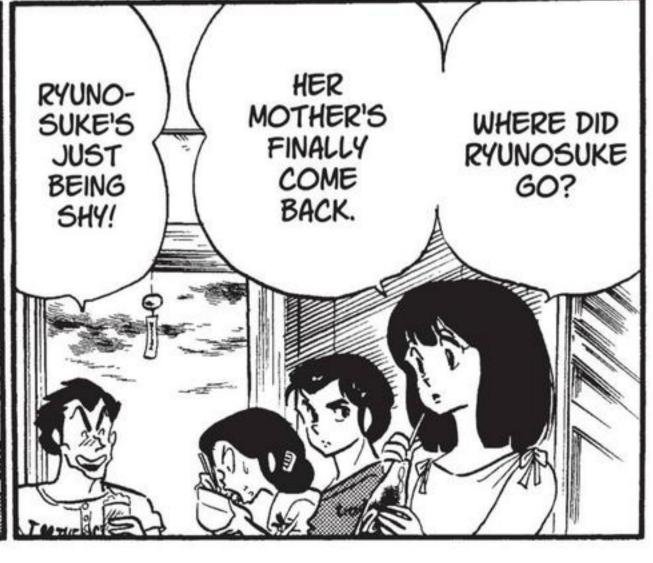






































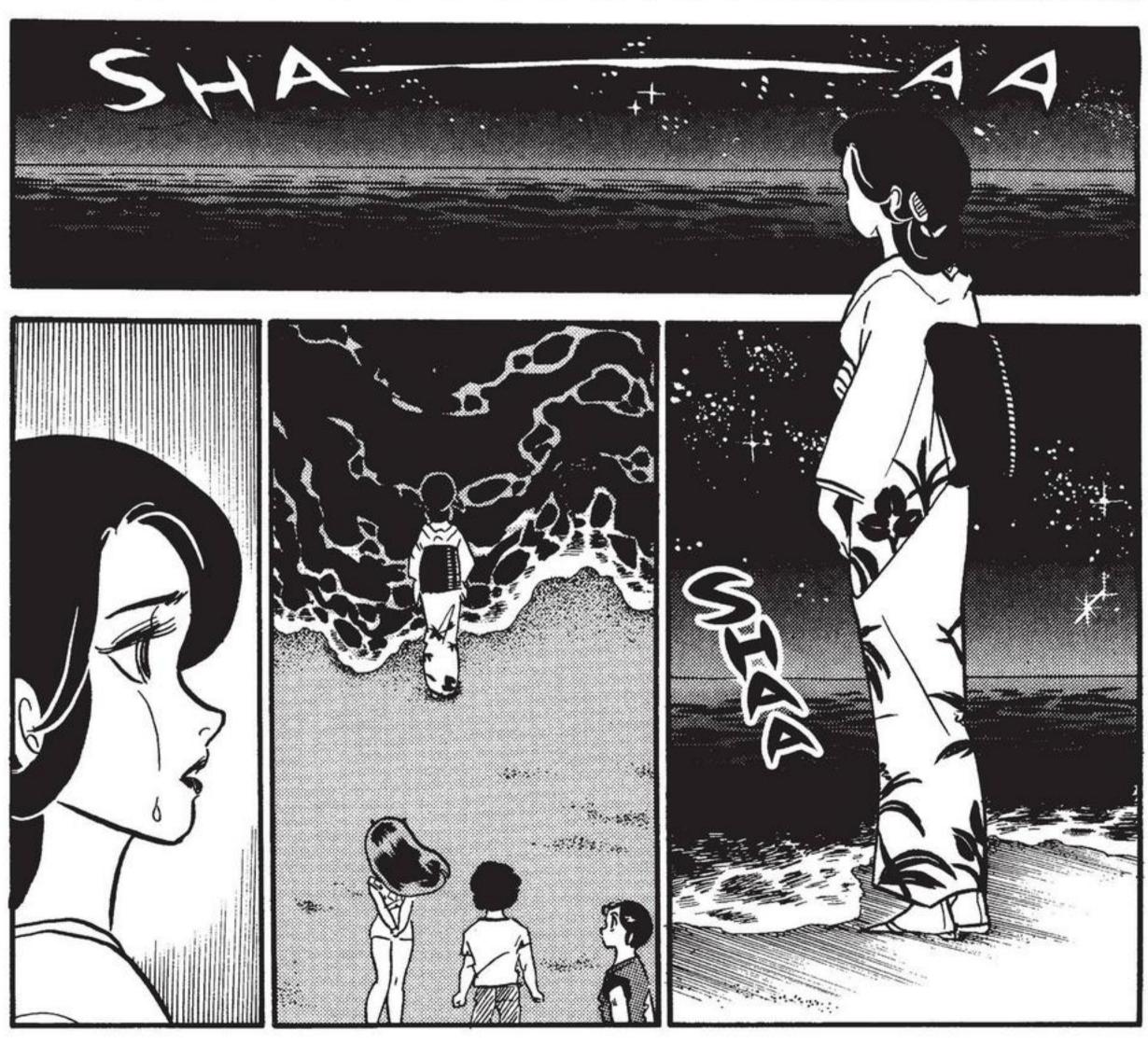
















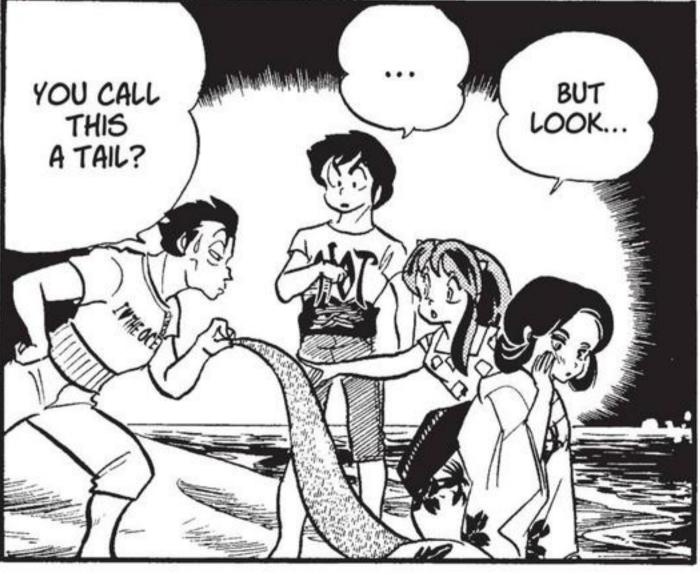






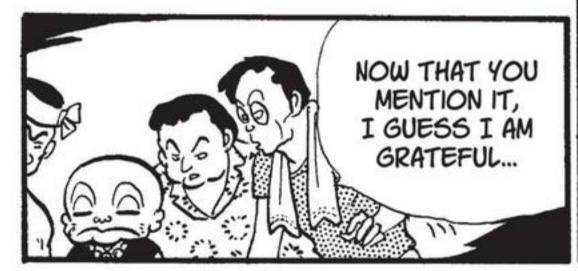




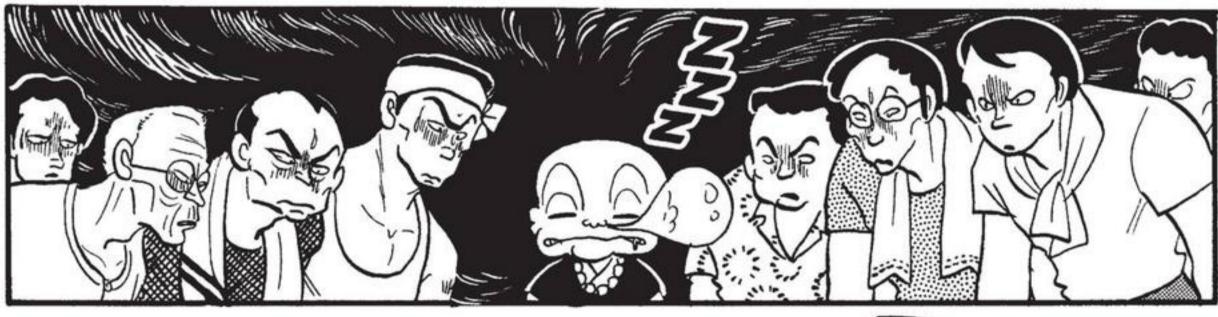


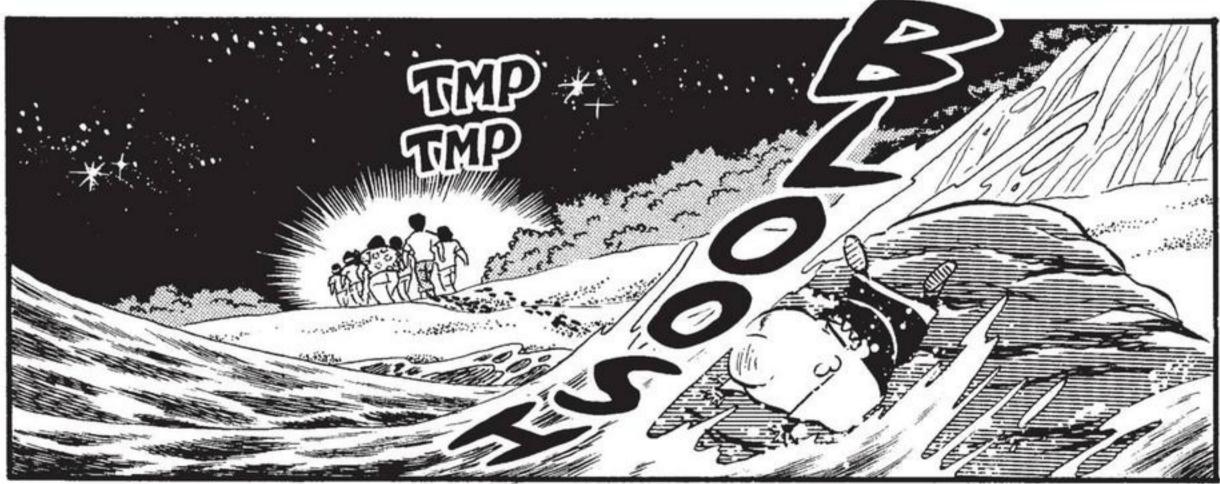










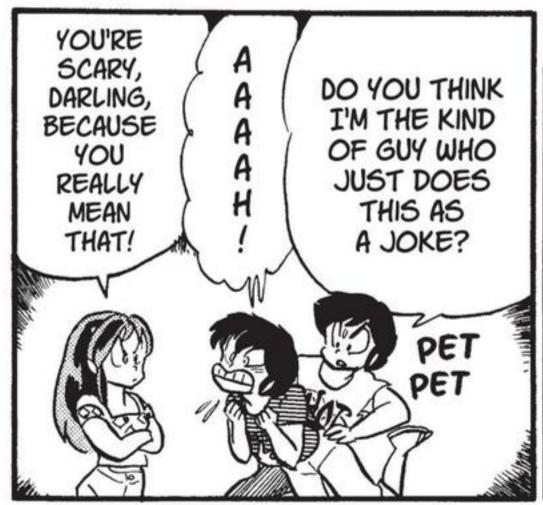
















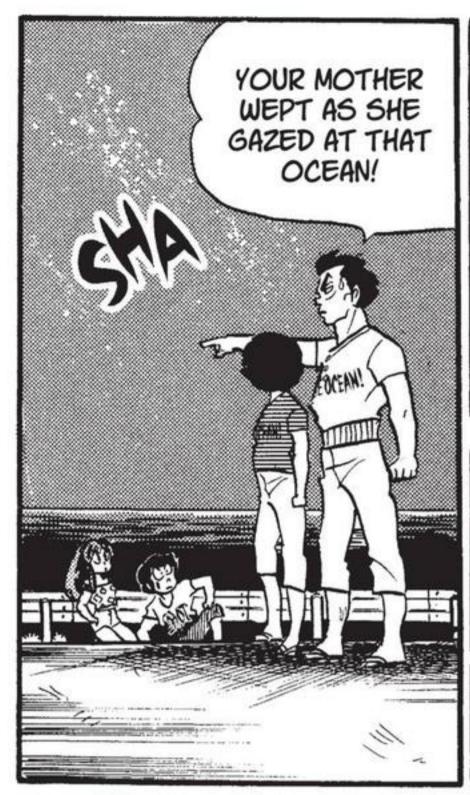


















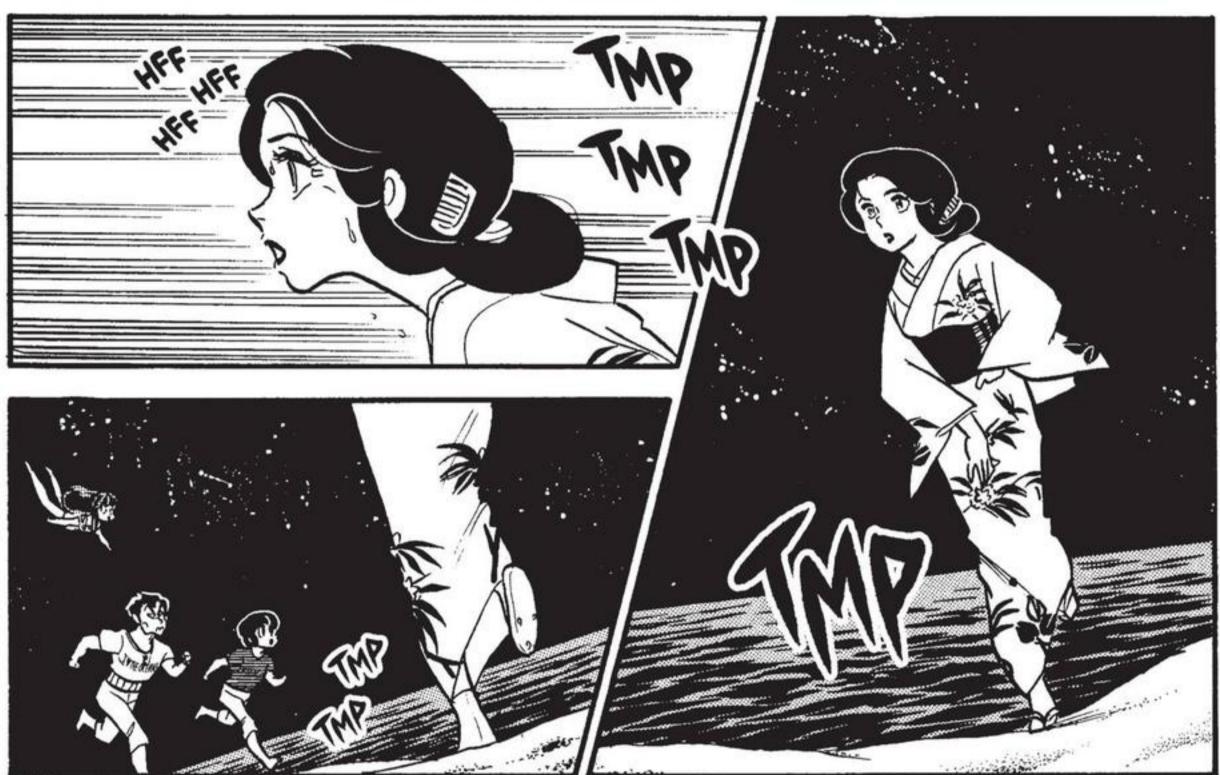


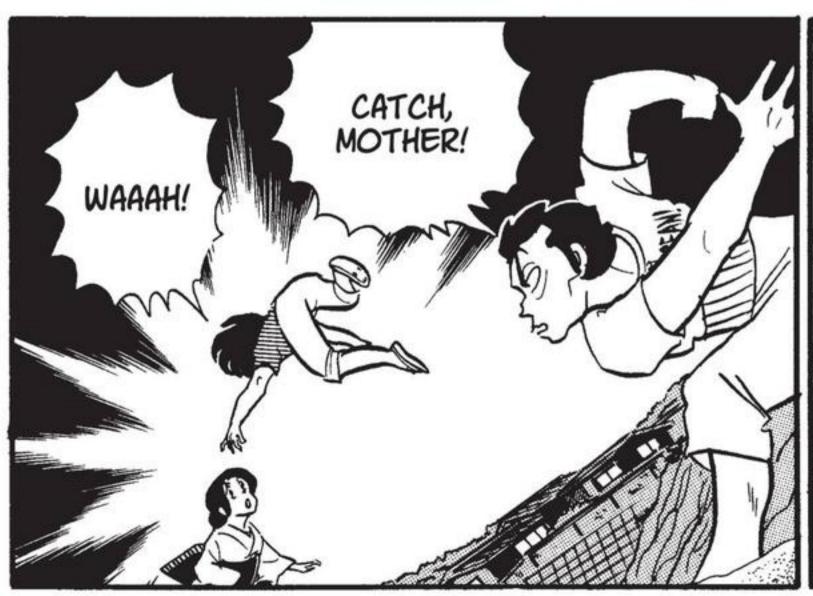






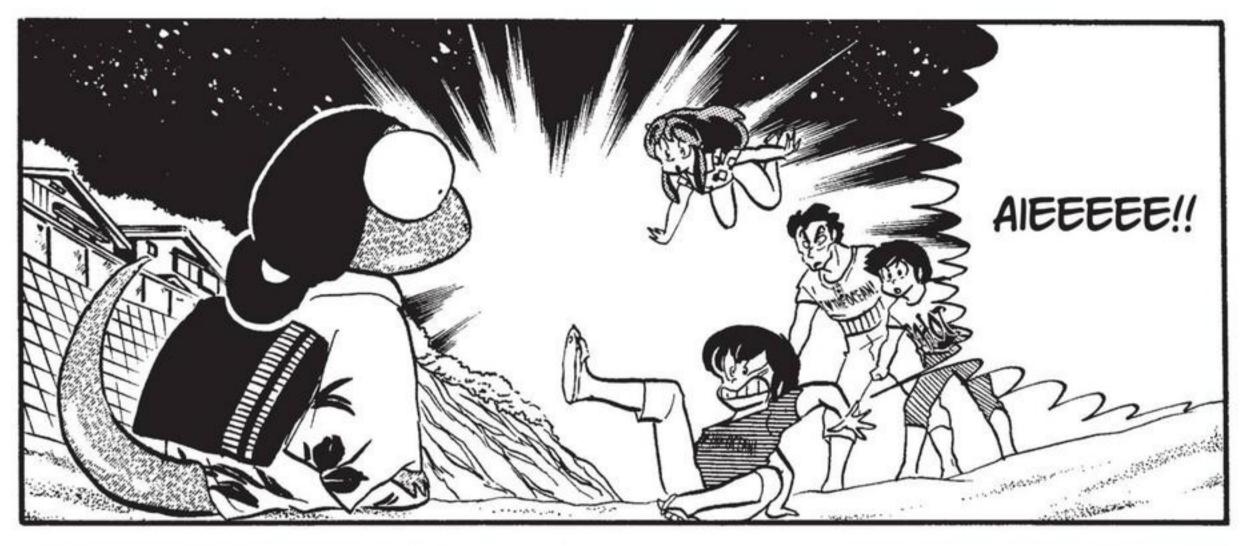












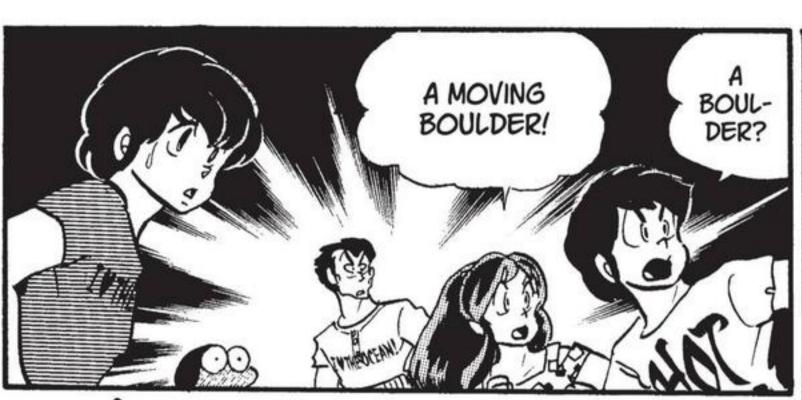


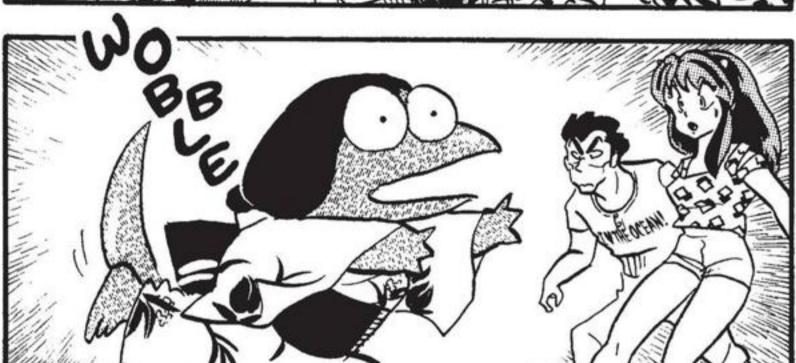


























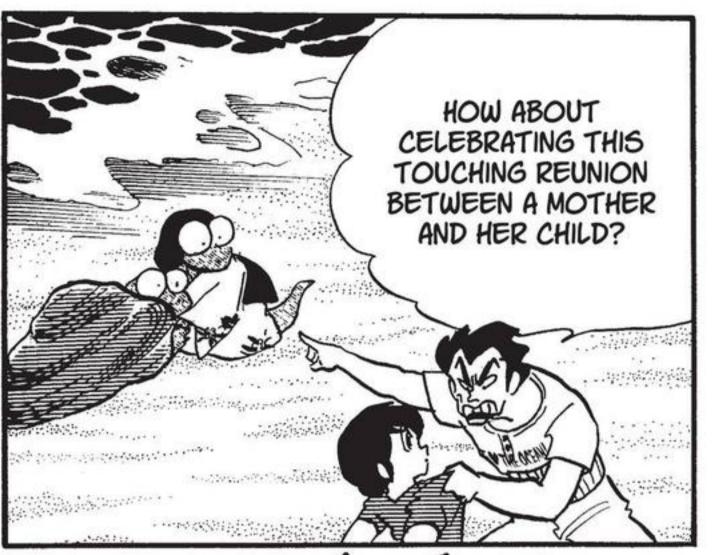


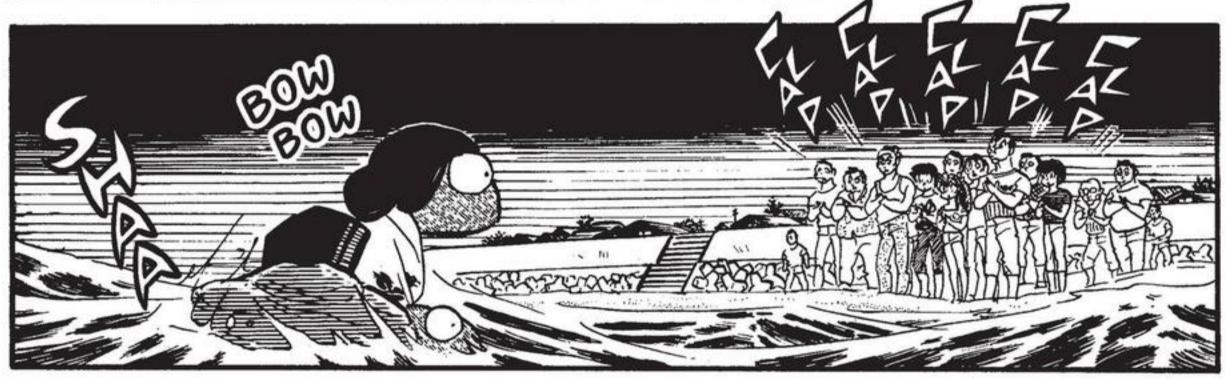


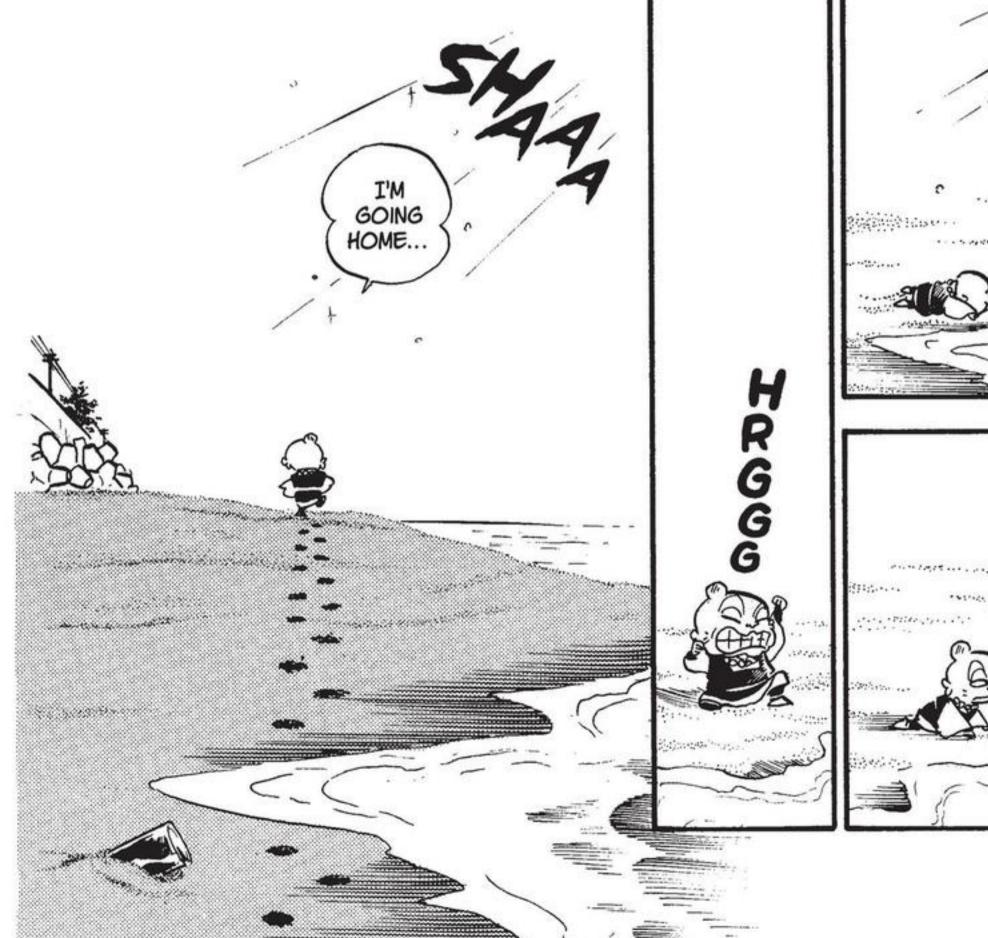


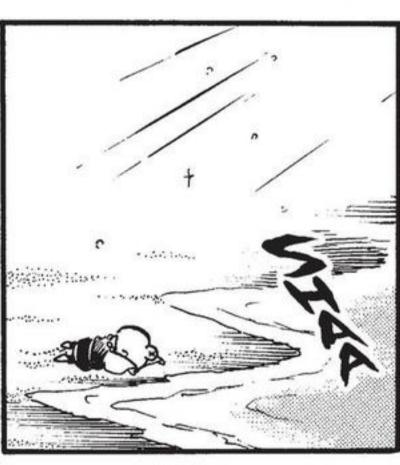


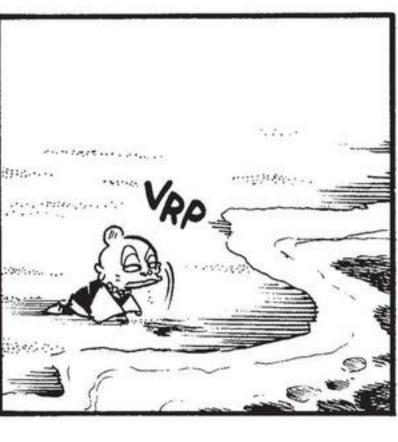






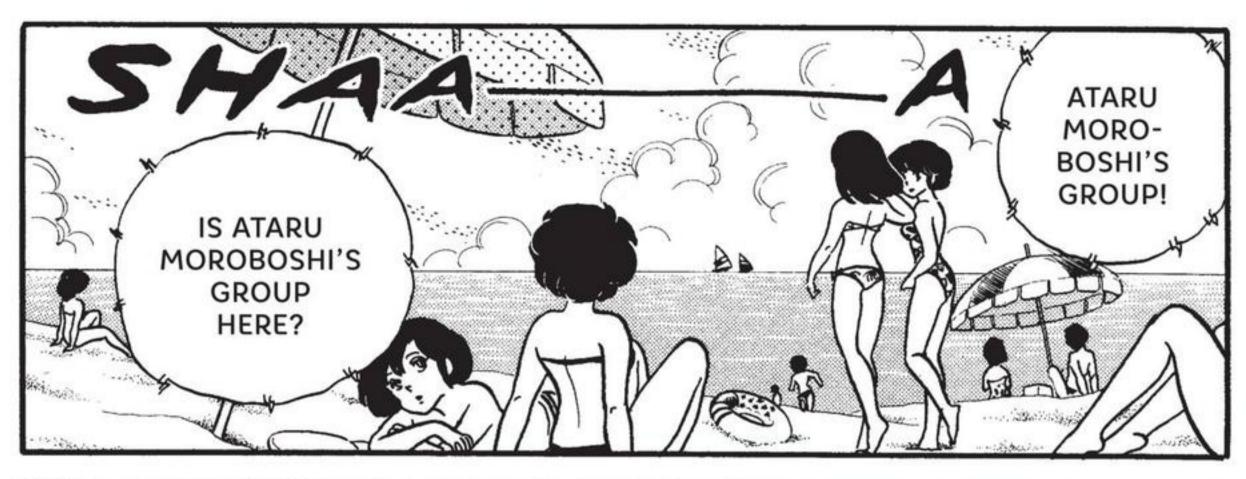






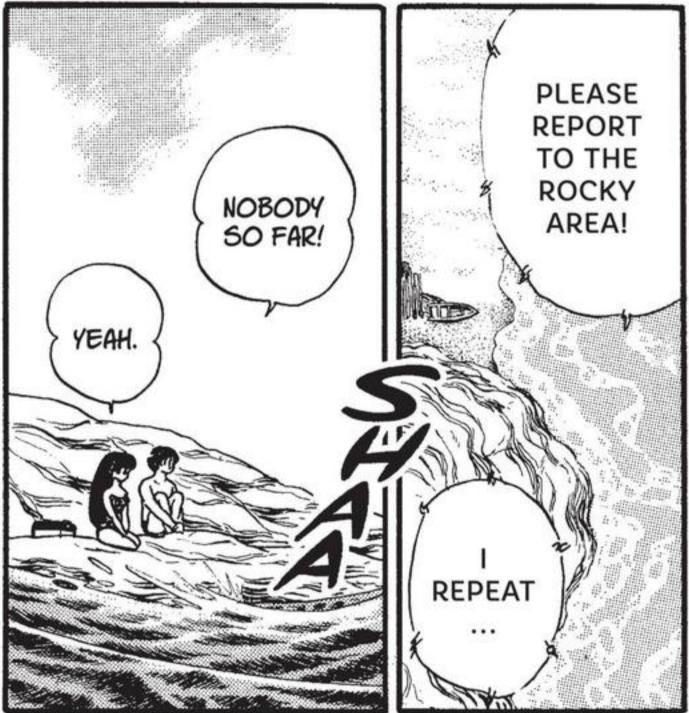
CHAPTER 5: LITTLE CANNED YOUTH











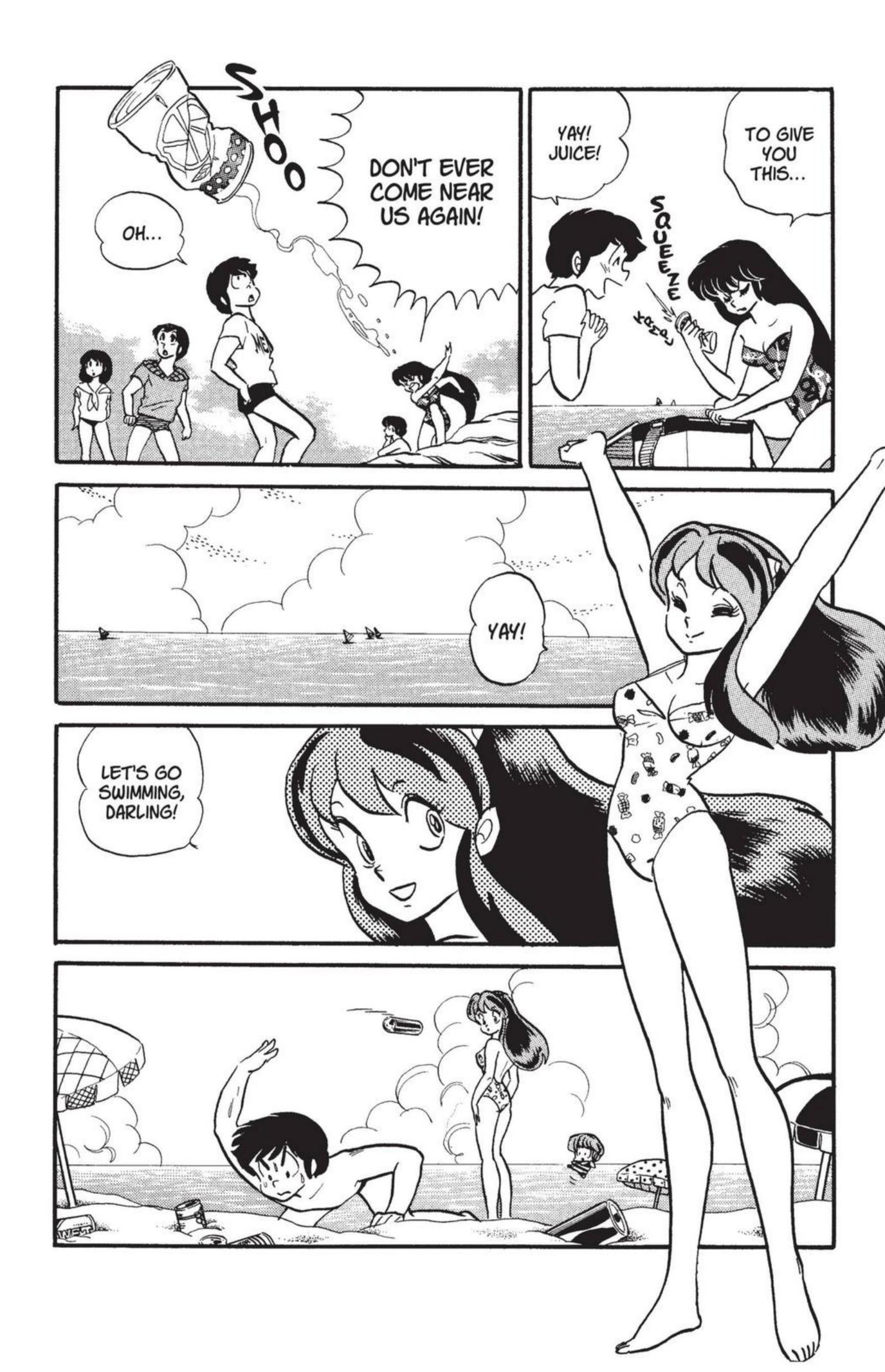


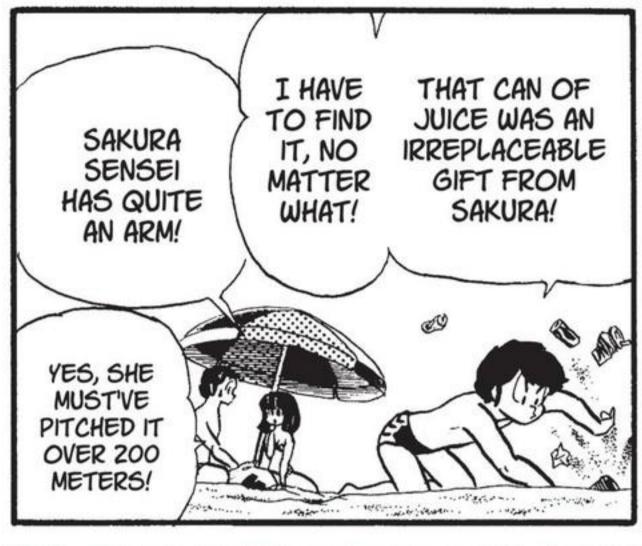








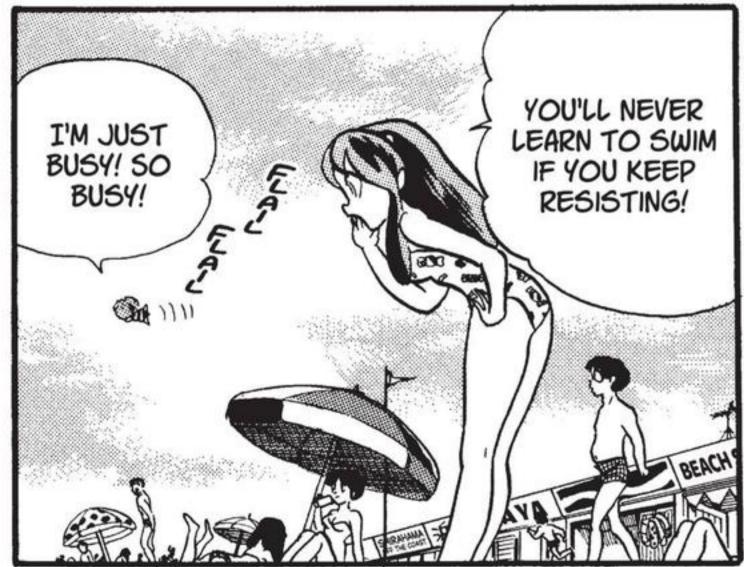




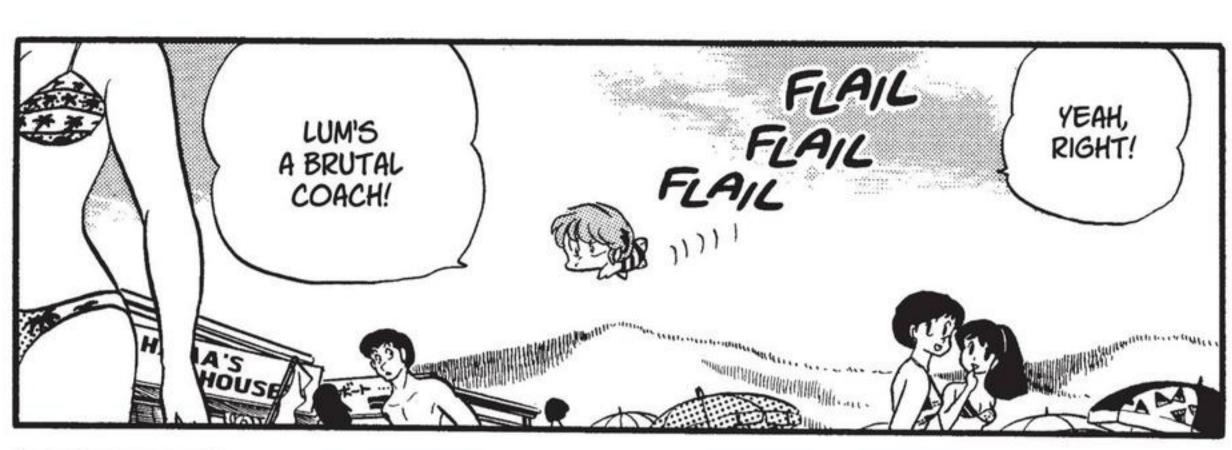






















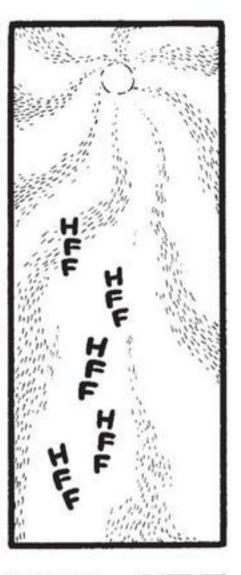








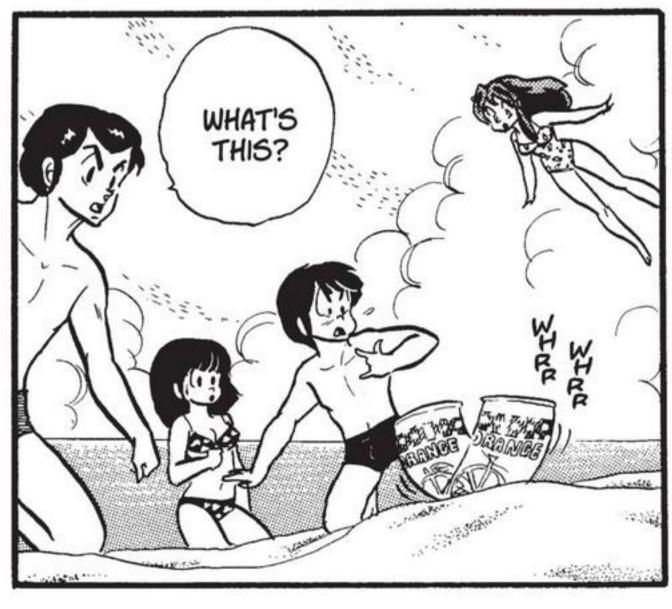
















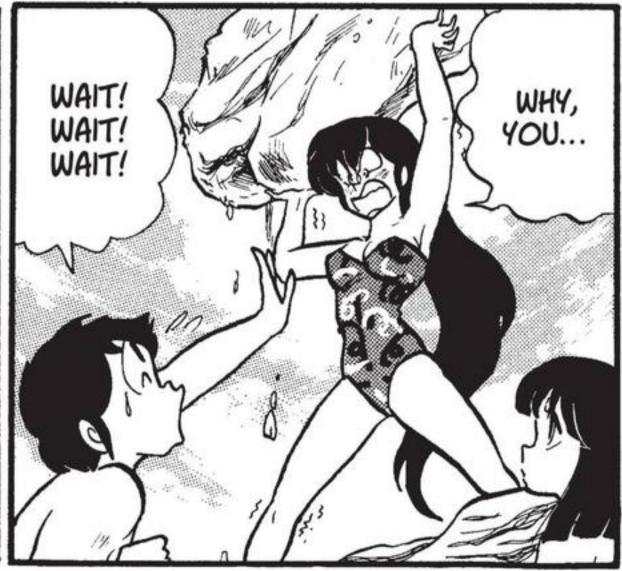


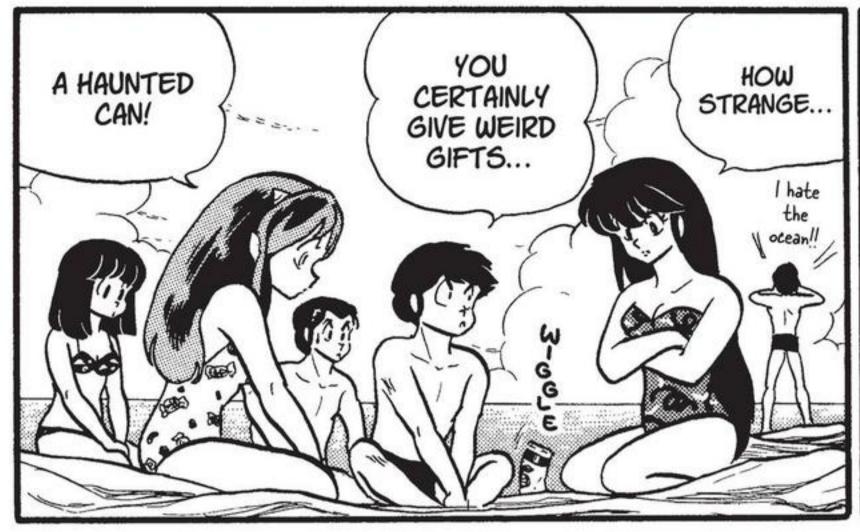














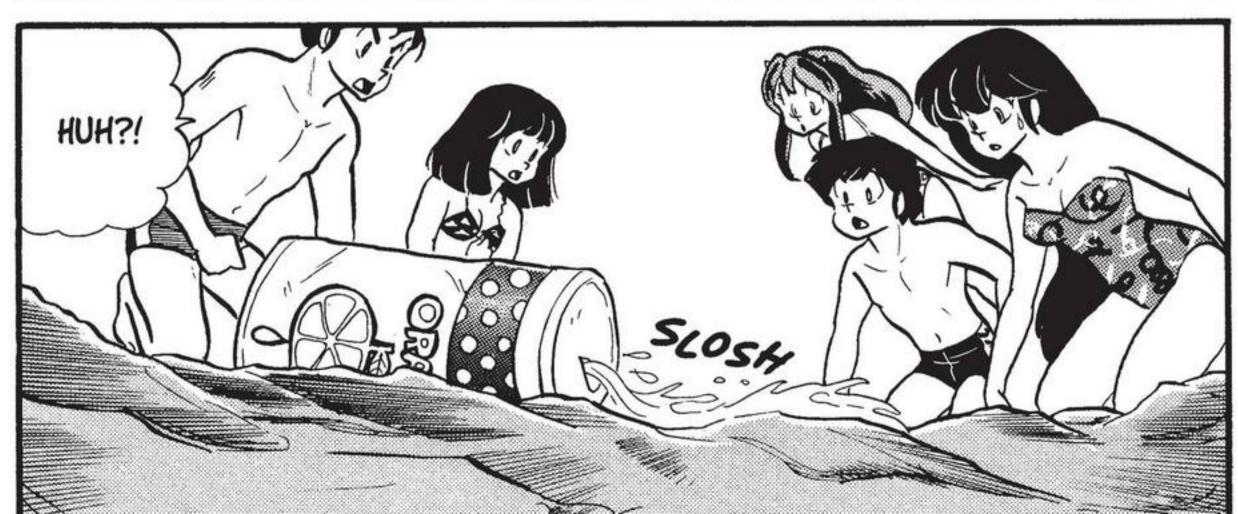






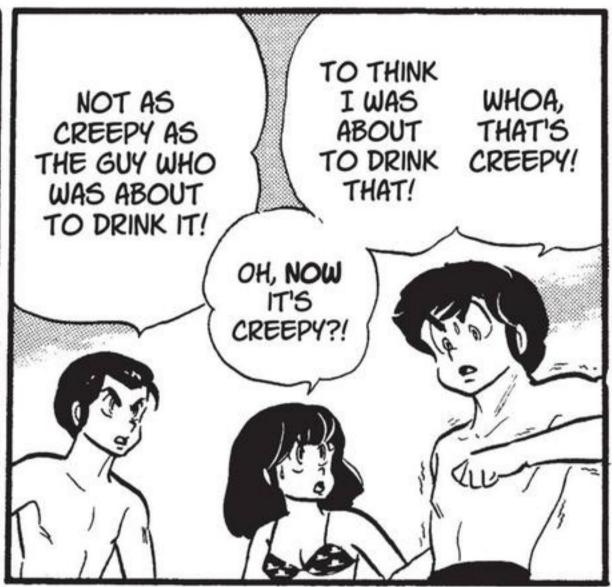












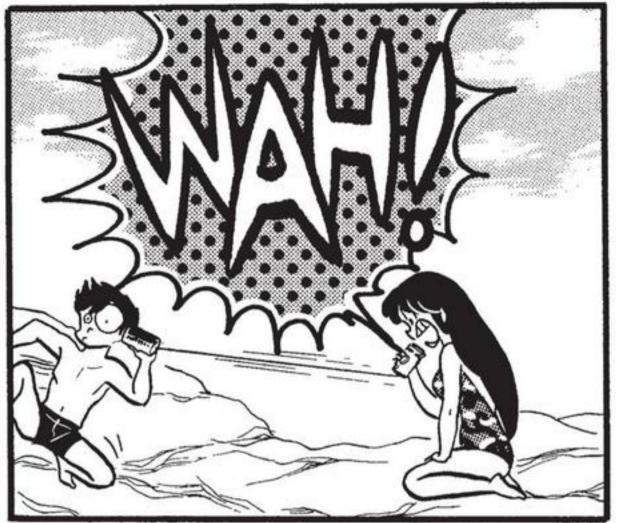


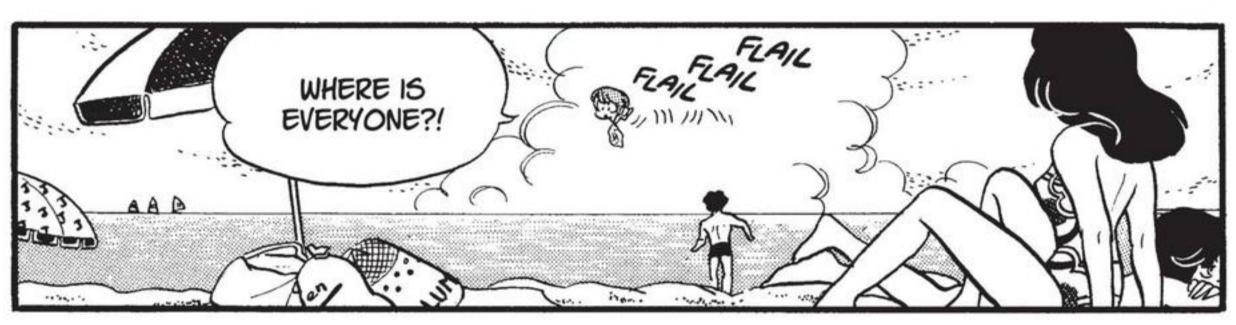


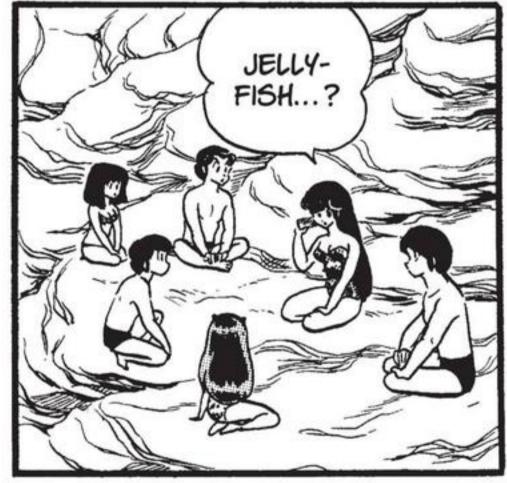










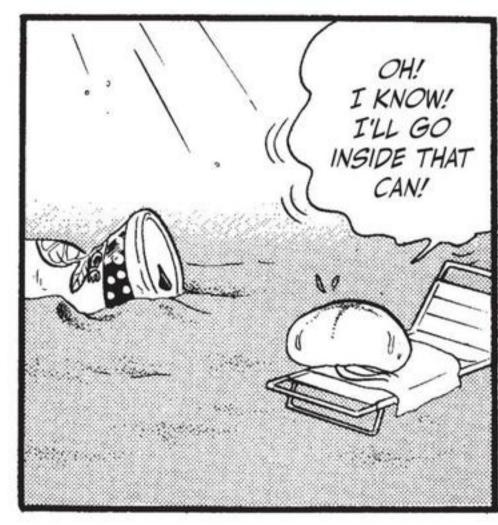






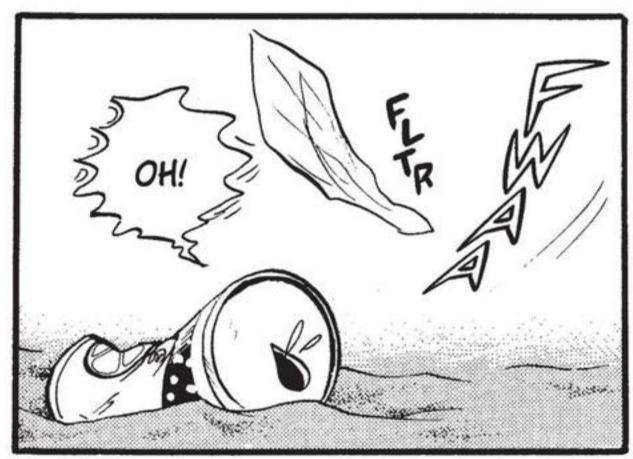


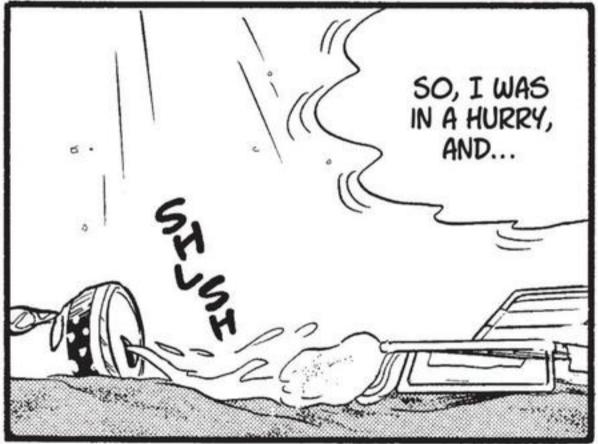










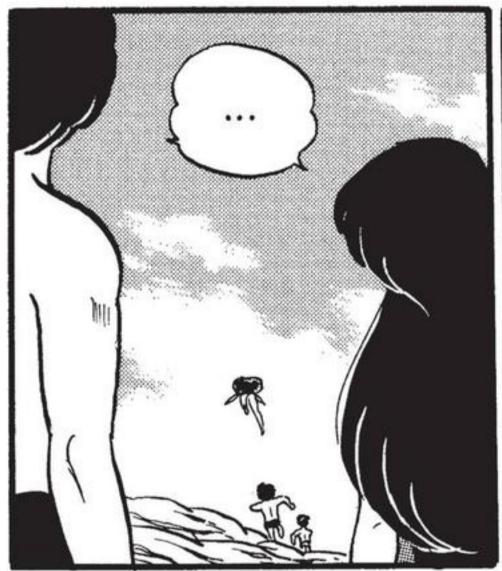


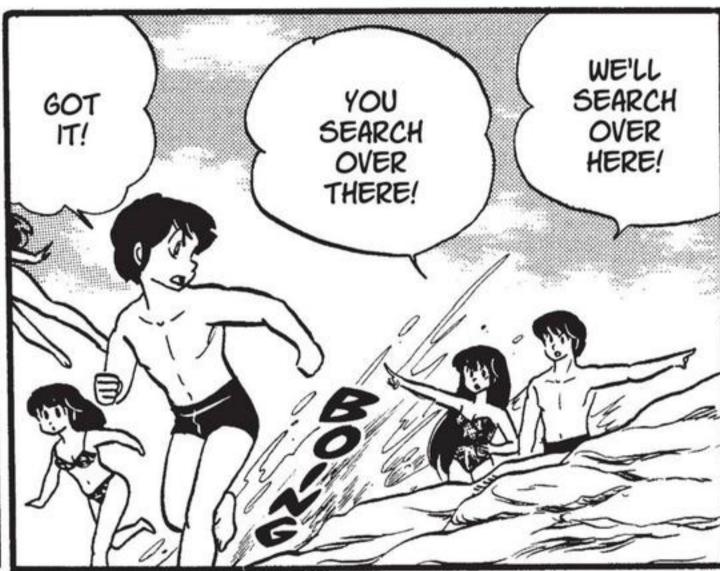






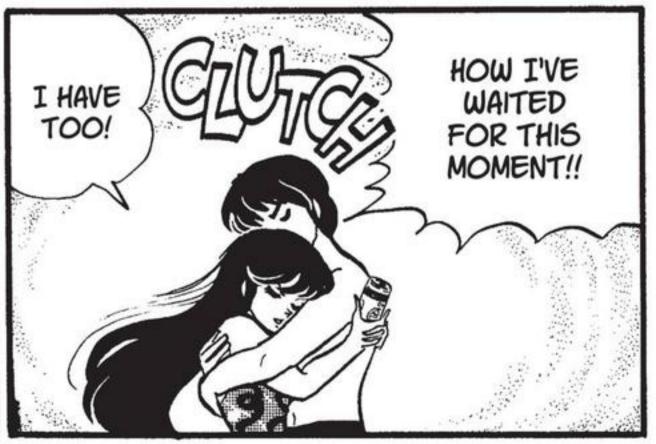












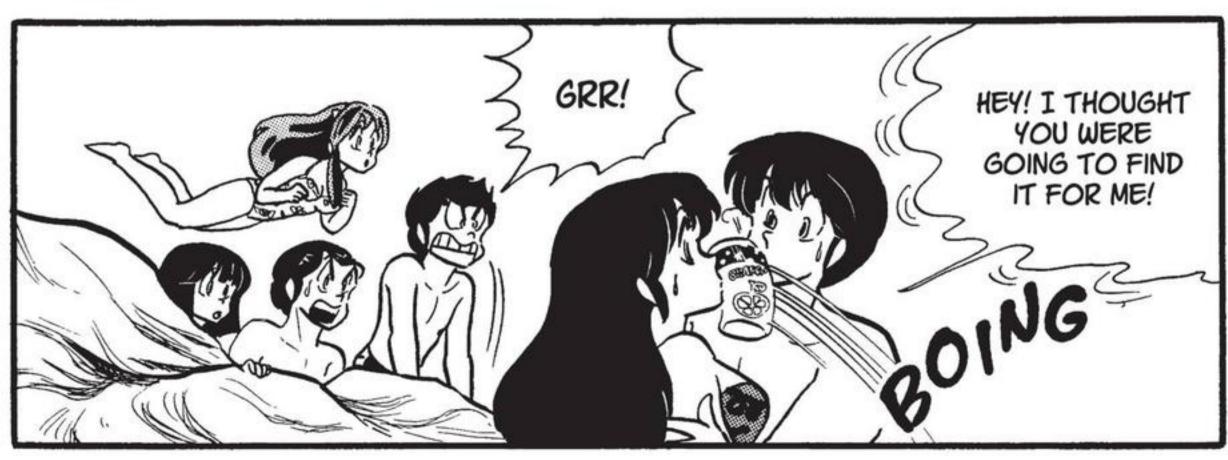










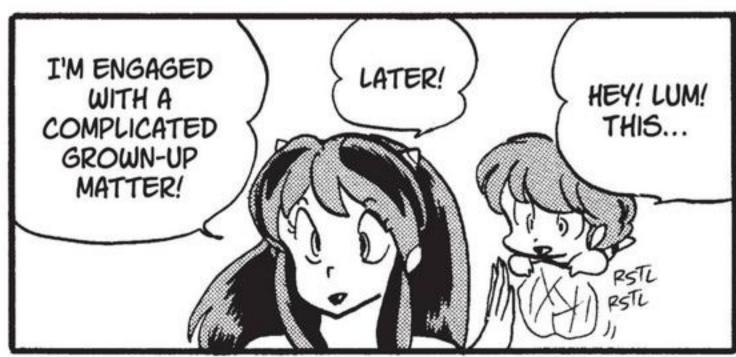




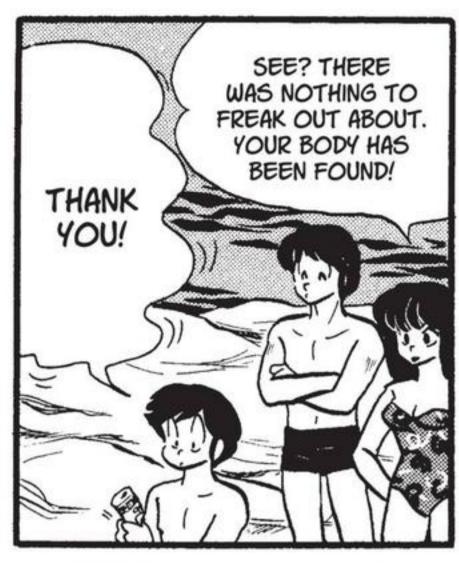










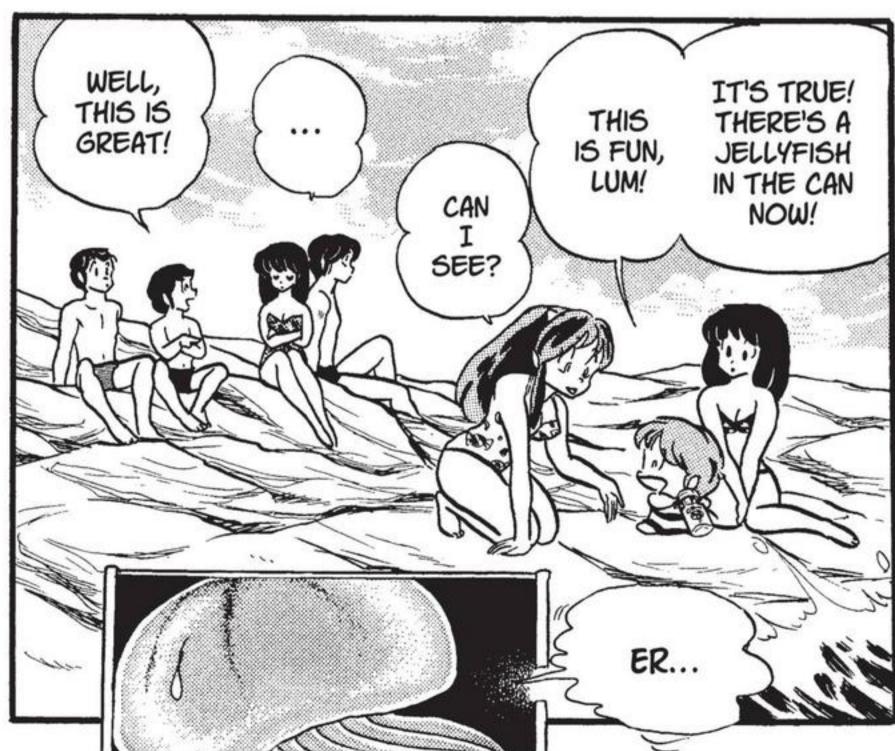














CHAPTER 6: OH, NIGHT SHOPS!





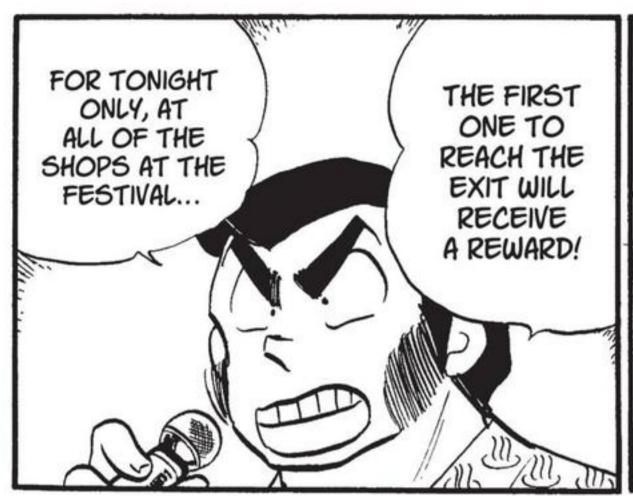












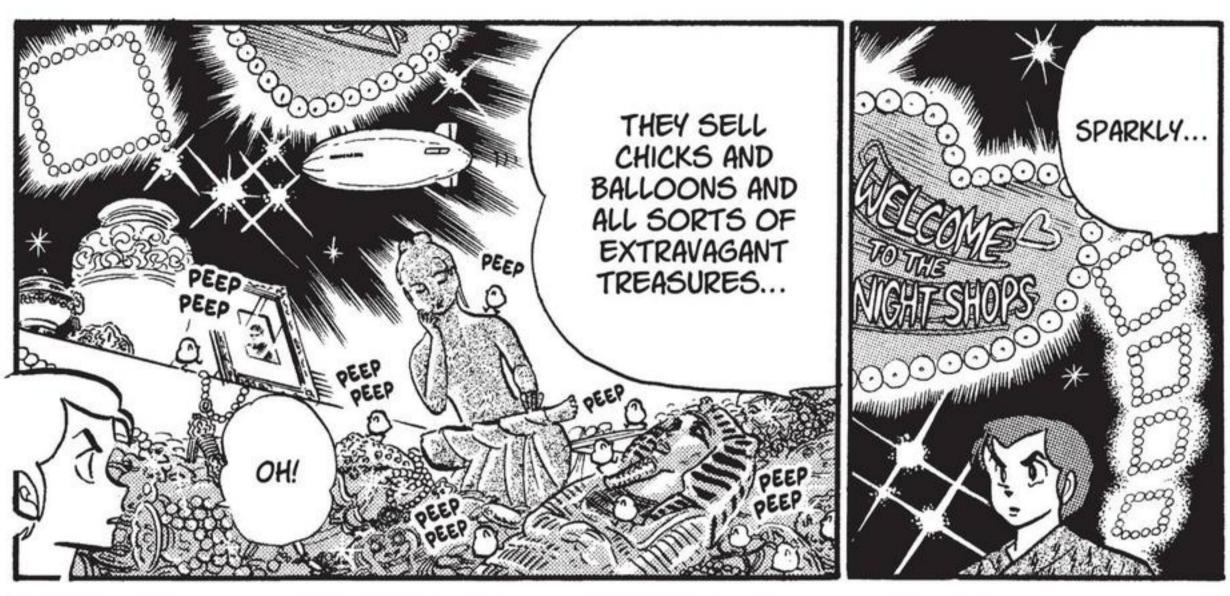
















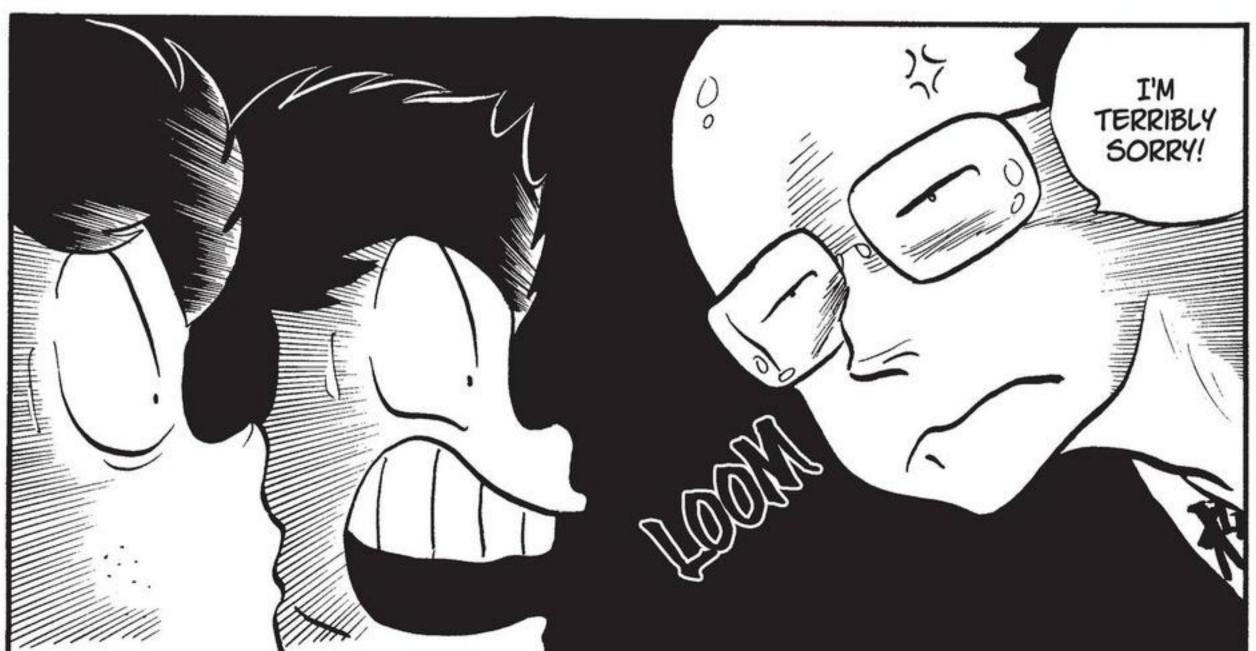


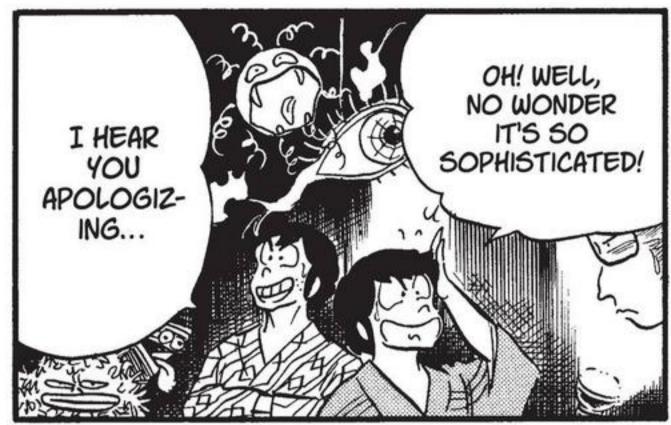






















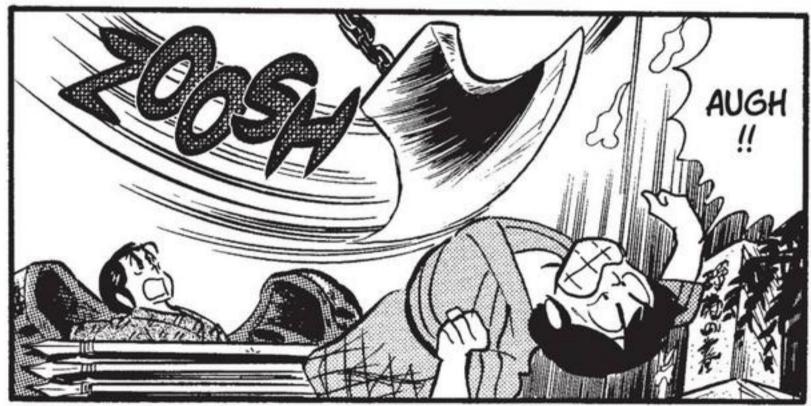






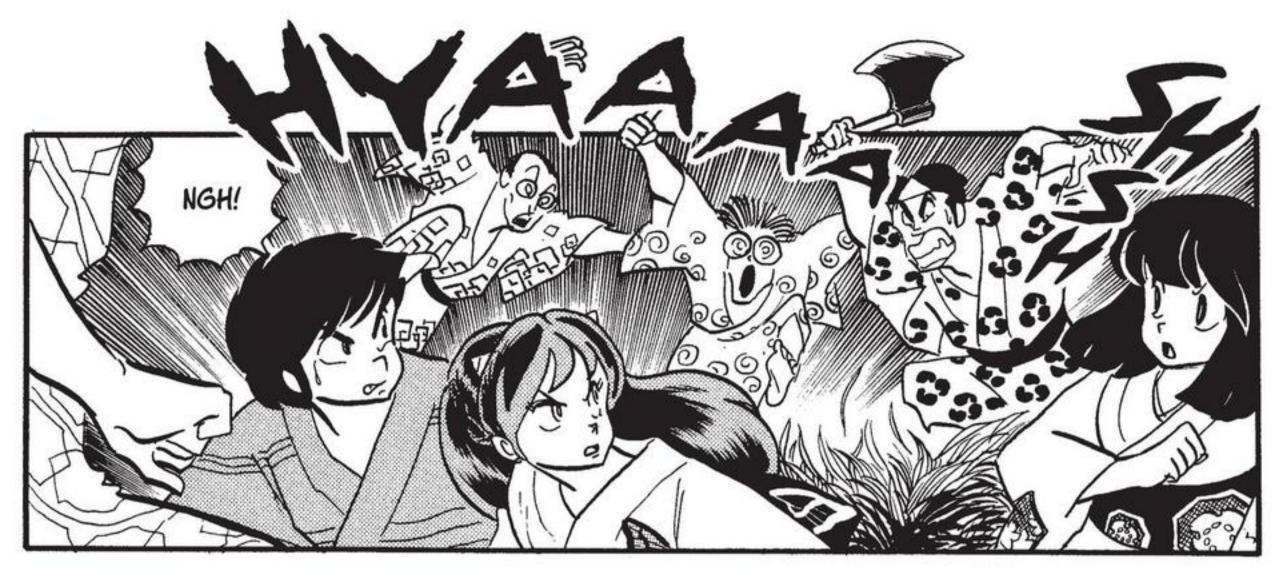








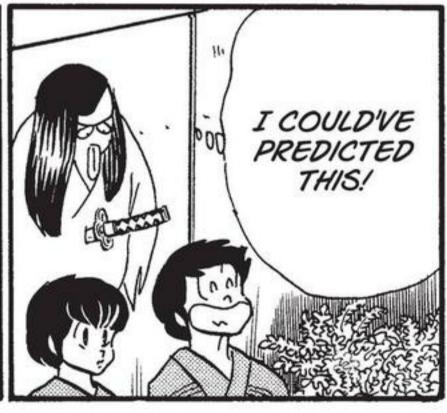




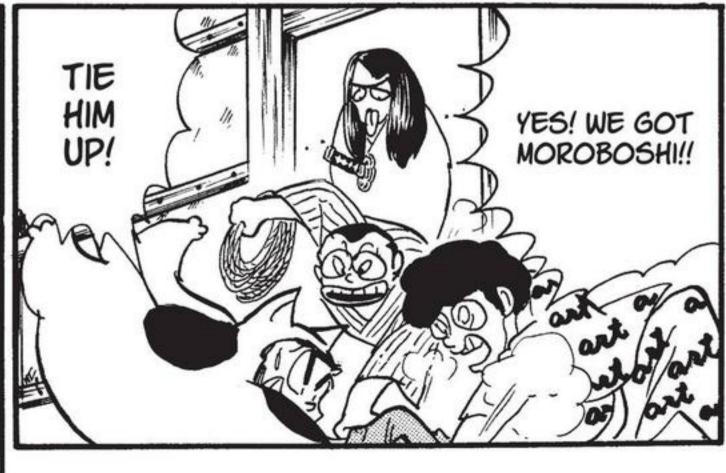


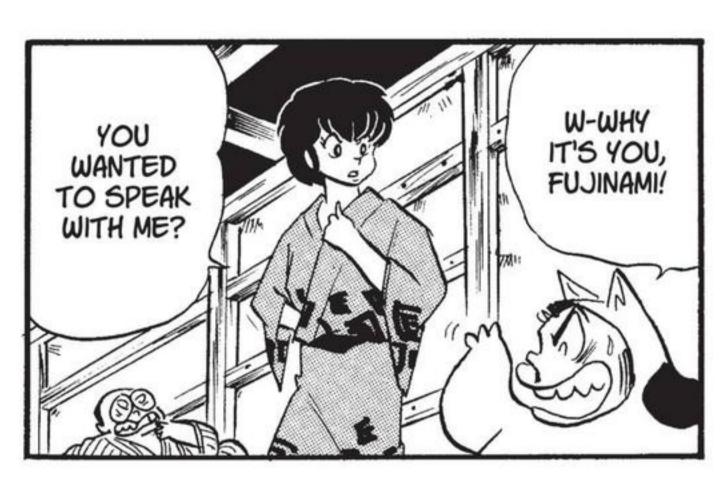


















WHAT

ARE YOU DOING?!



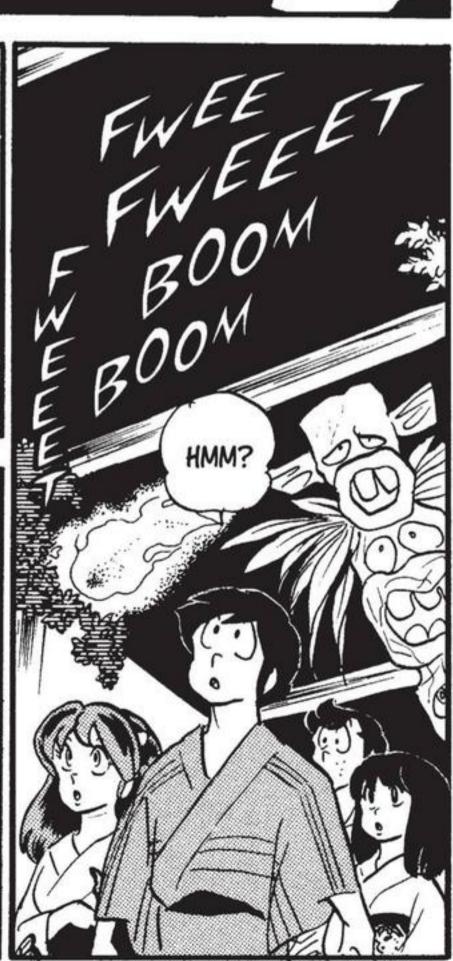






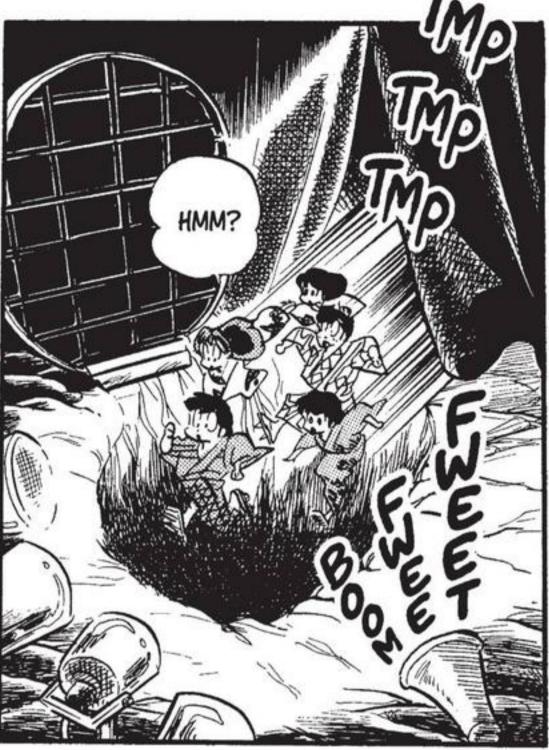












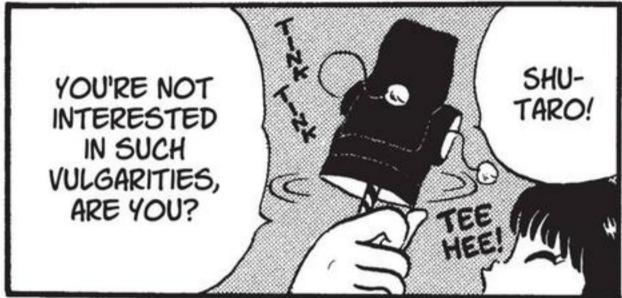
























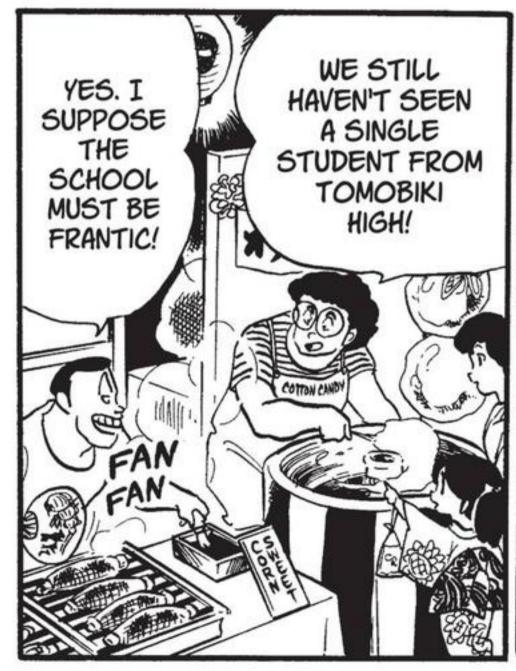






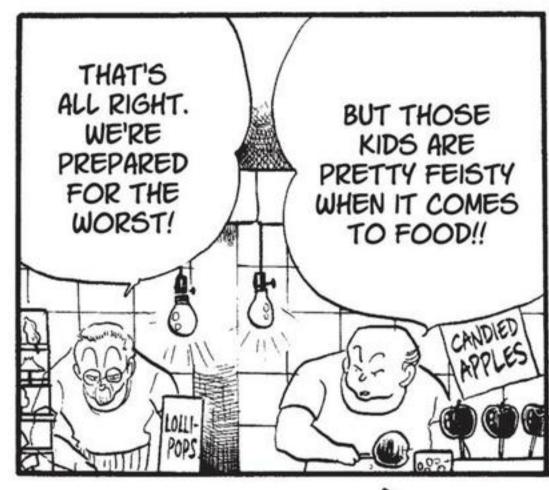






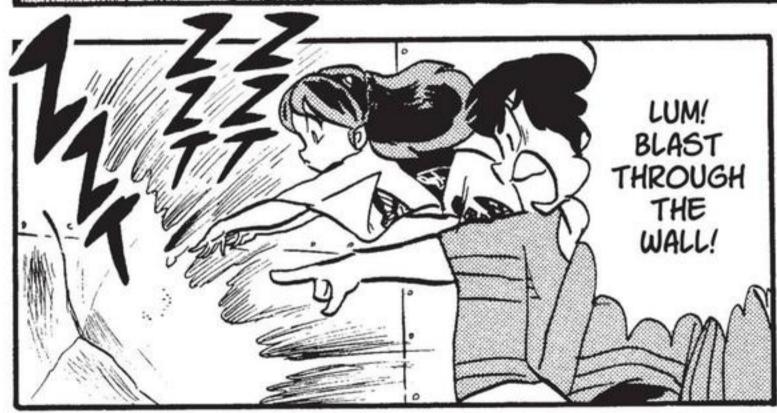






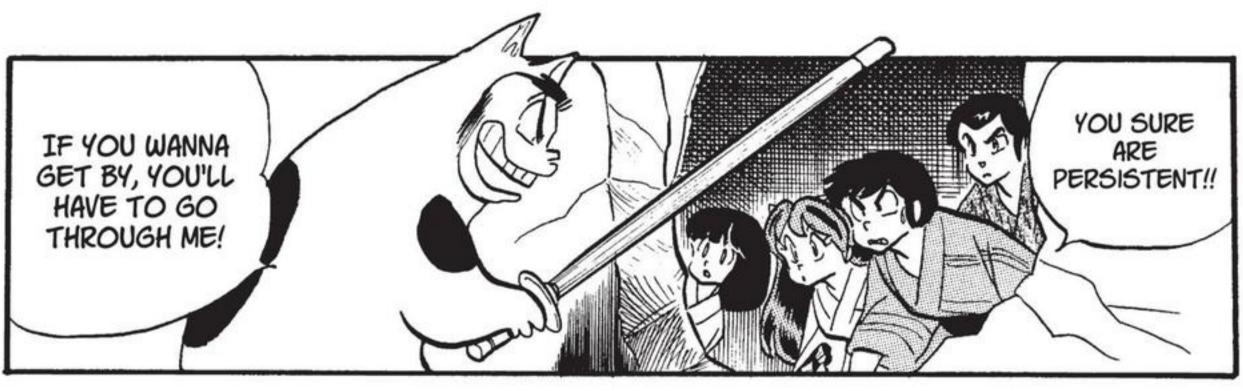






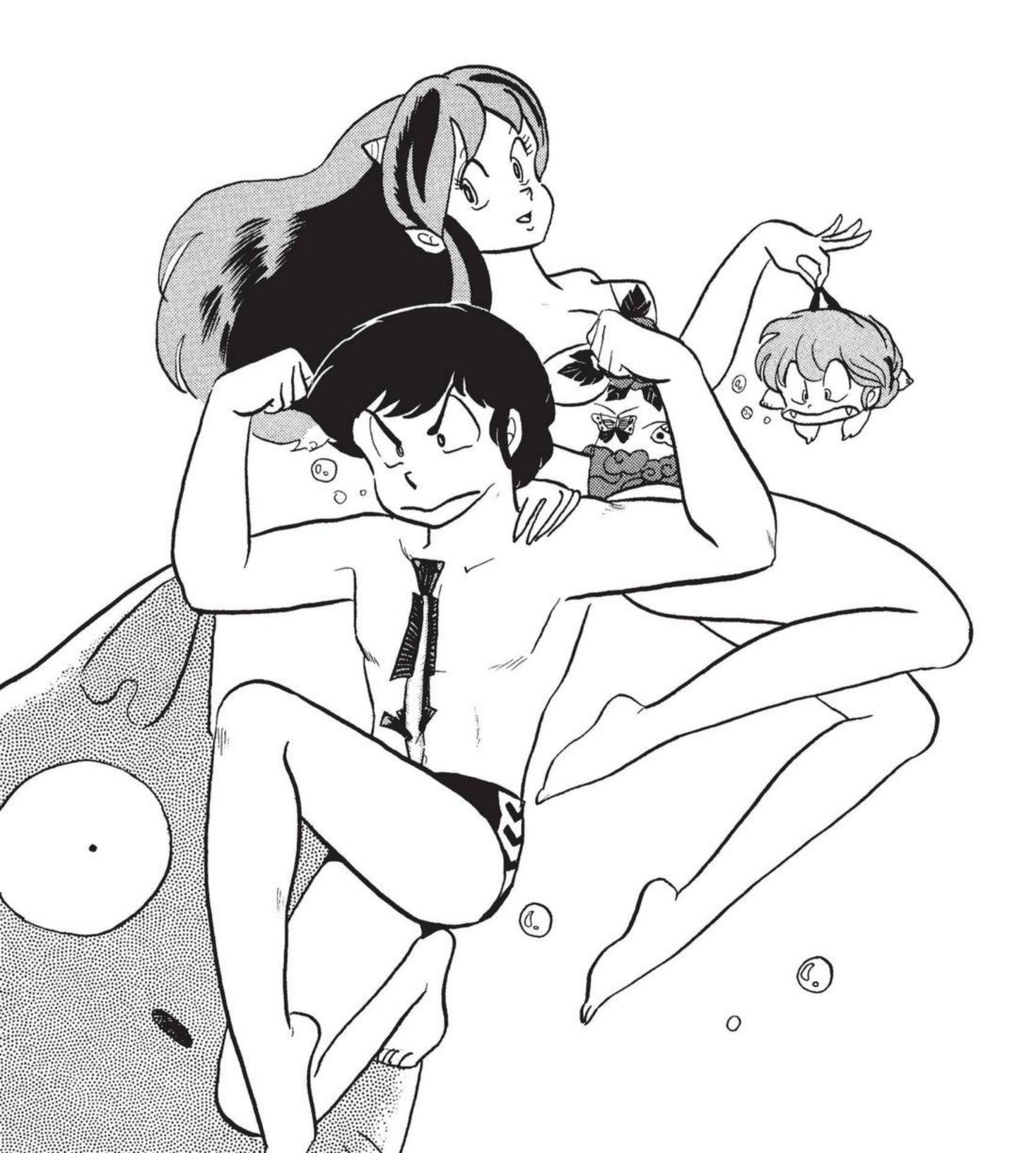






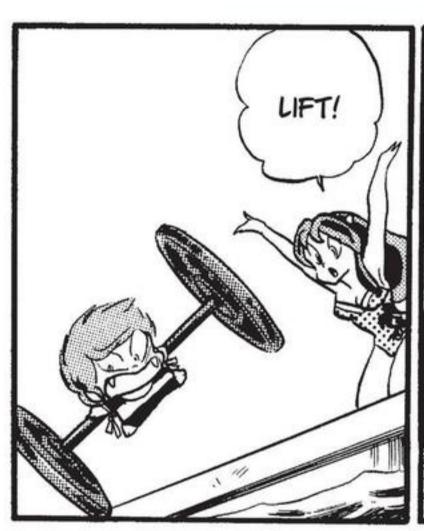


CHAPTER 7: I AM A F-I-S-H











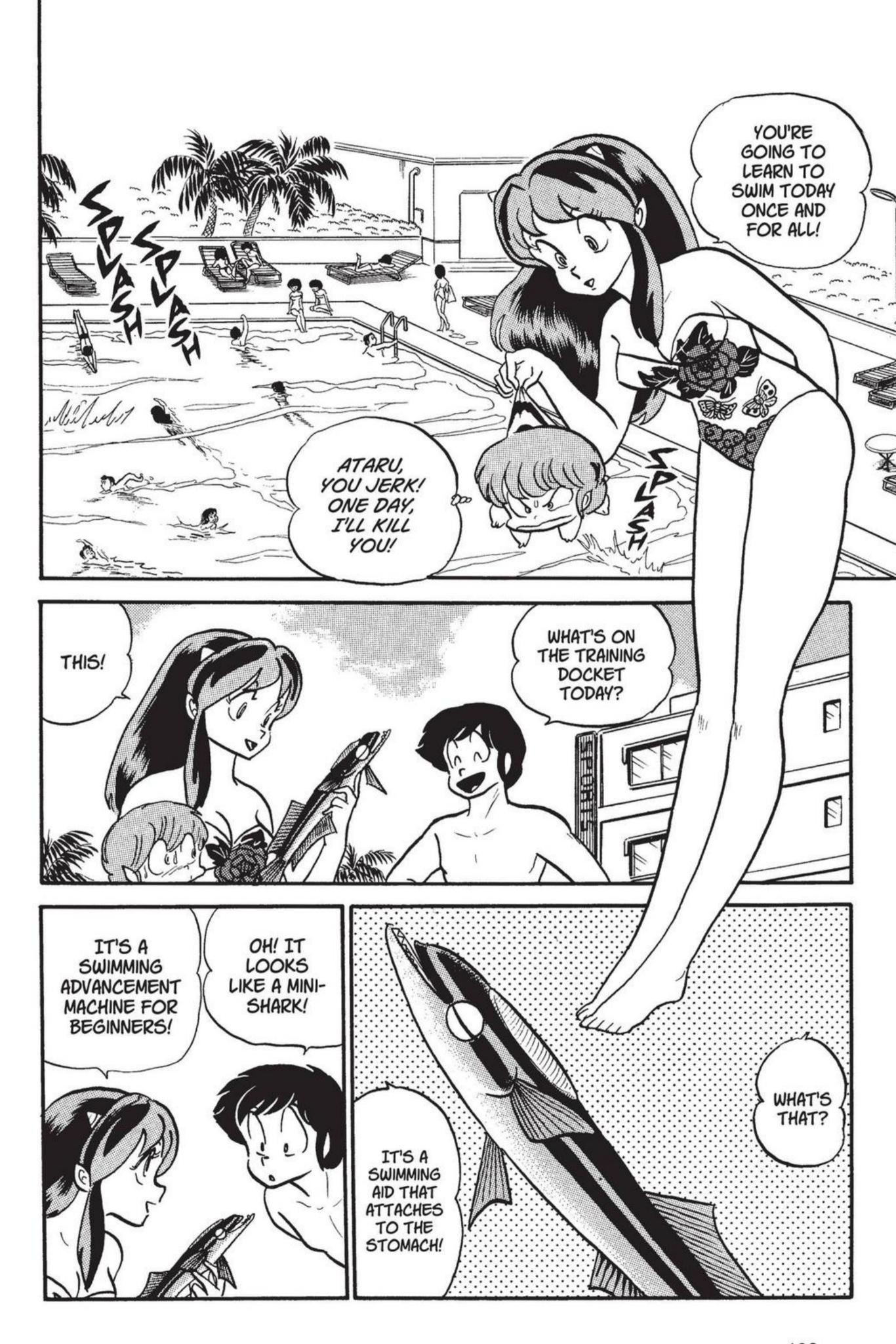


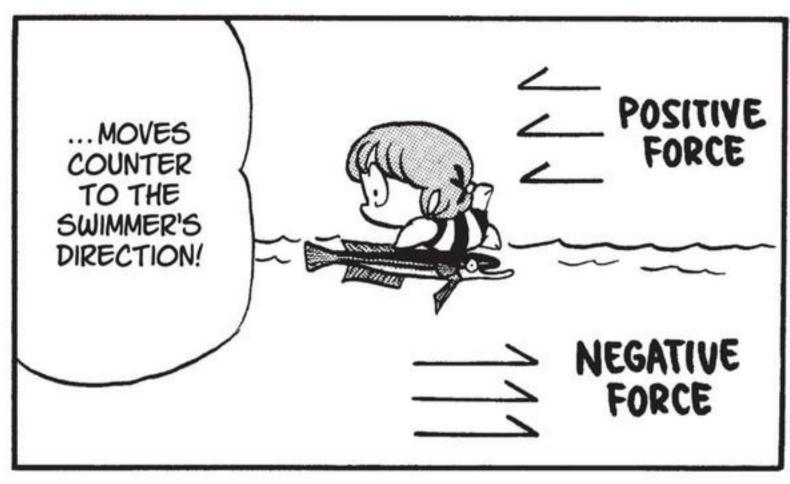


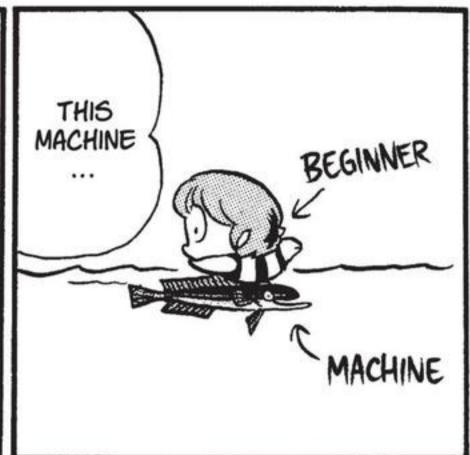




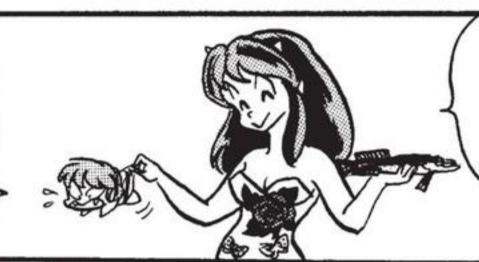




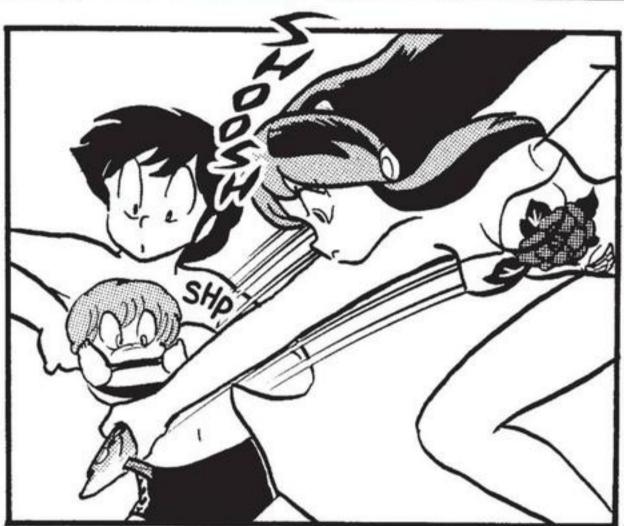


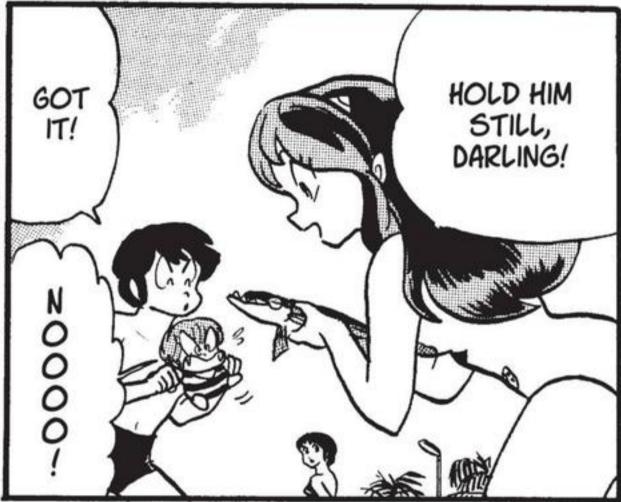


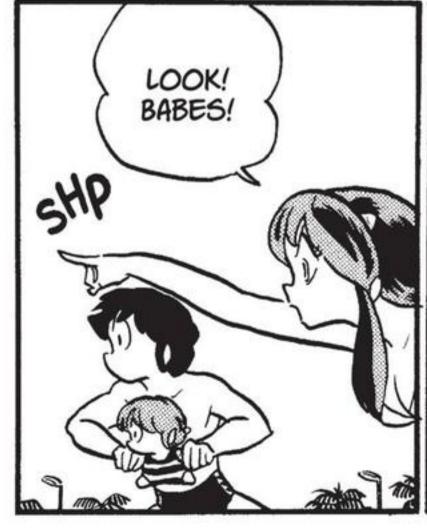




IF HE MANAGES TO SWIM FORWARD WEARING THIS, HE'S A TRUE SWIMMER!



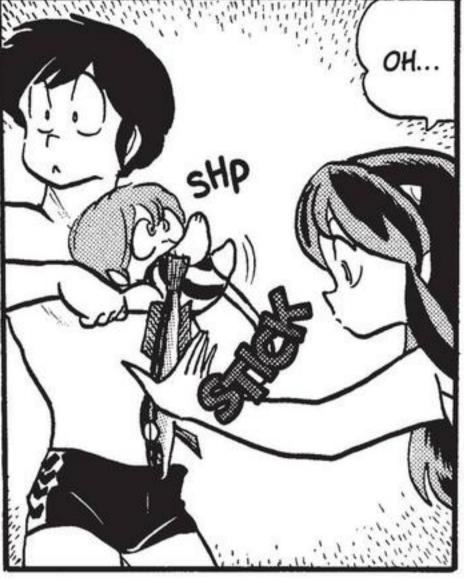




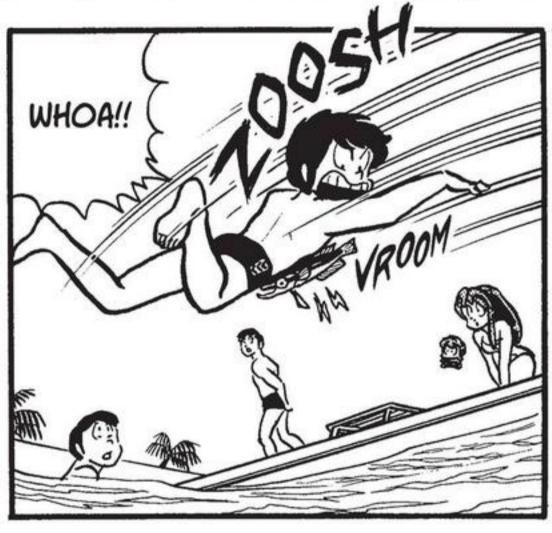


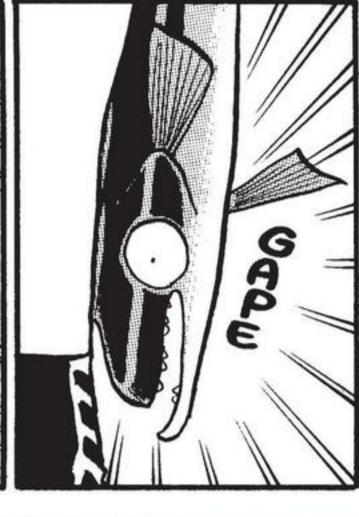


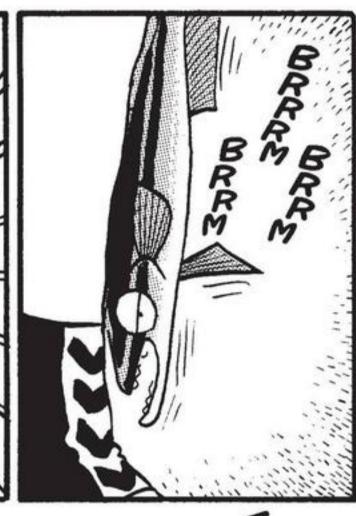






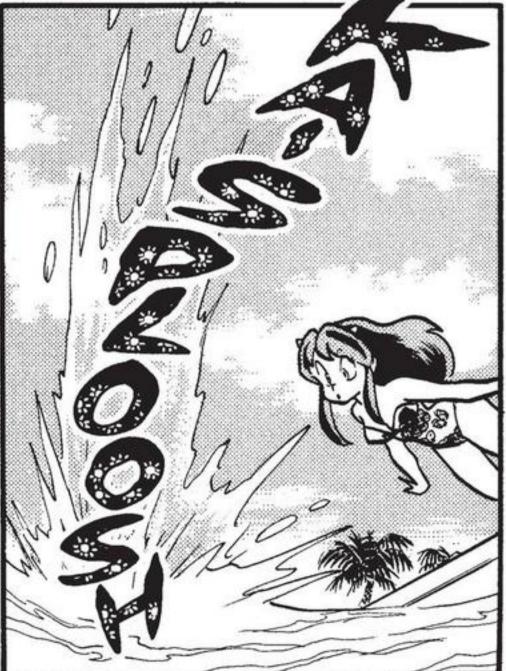


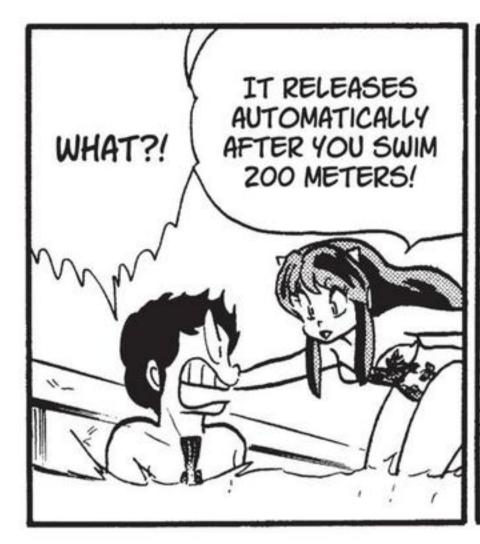






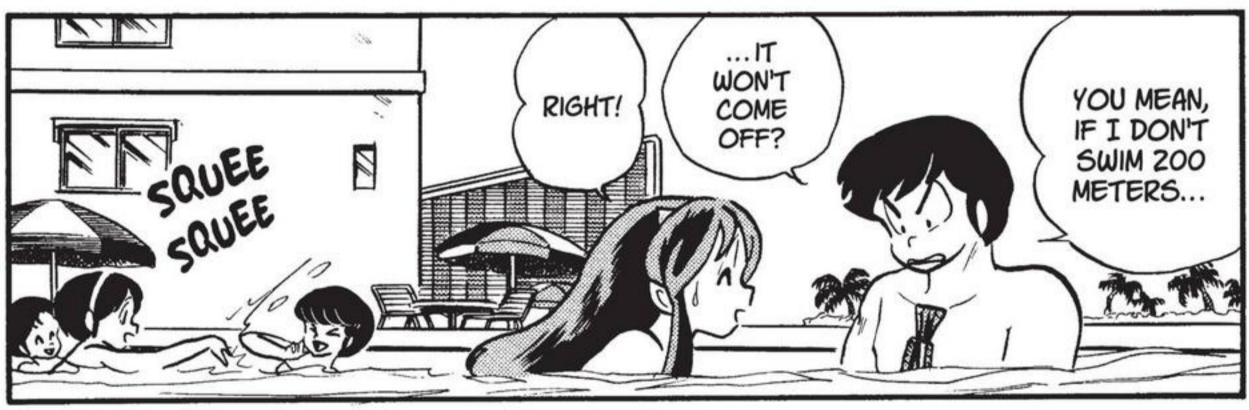


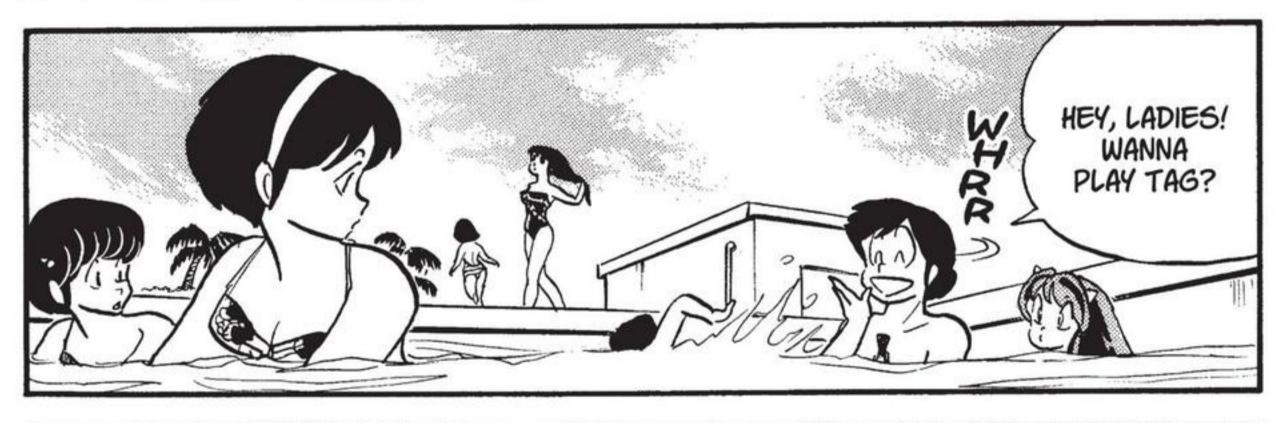


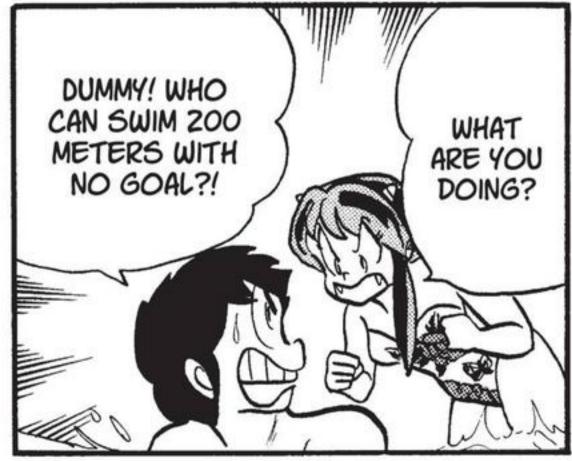


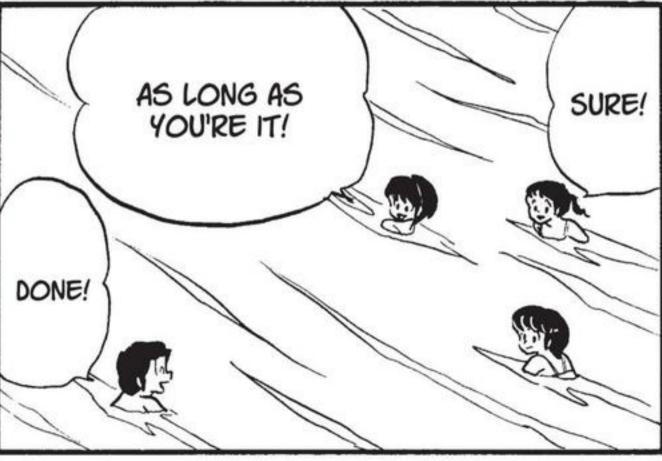


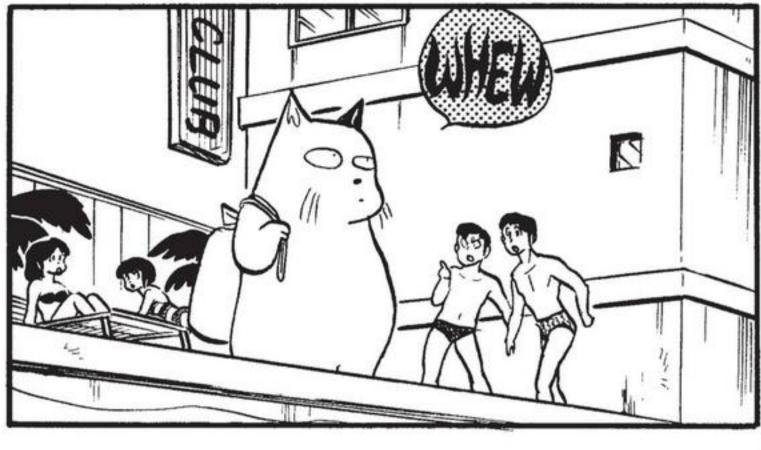










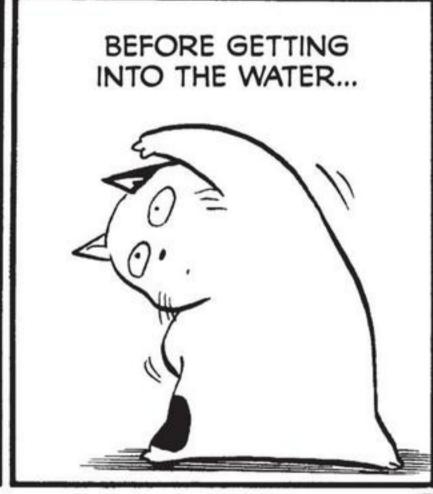










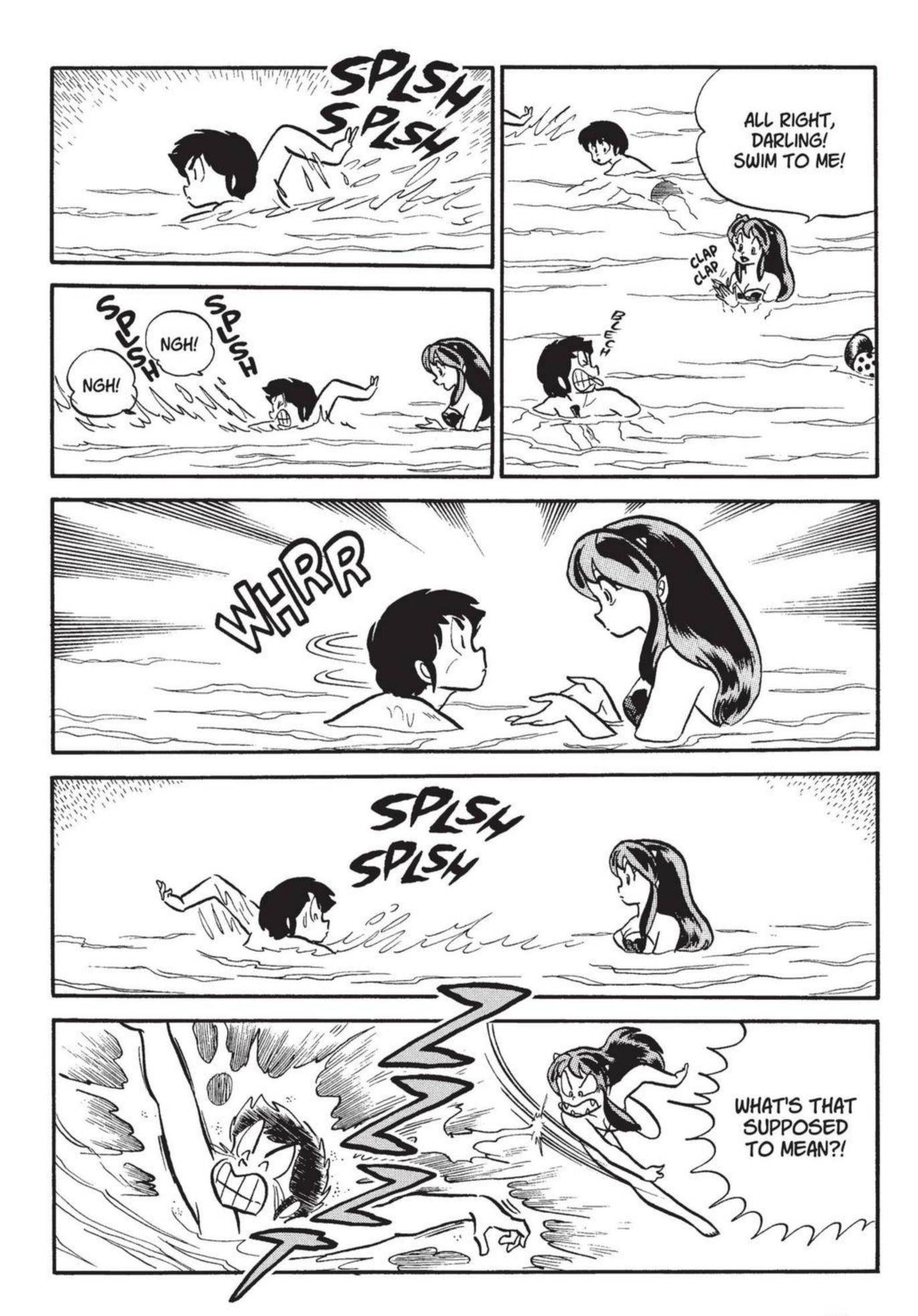


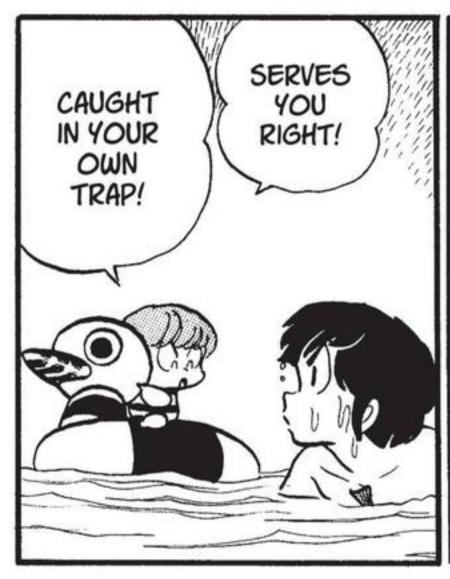






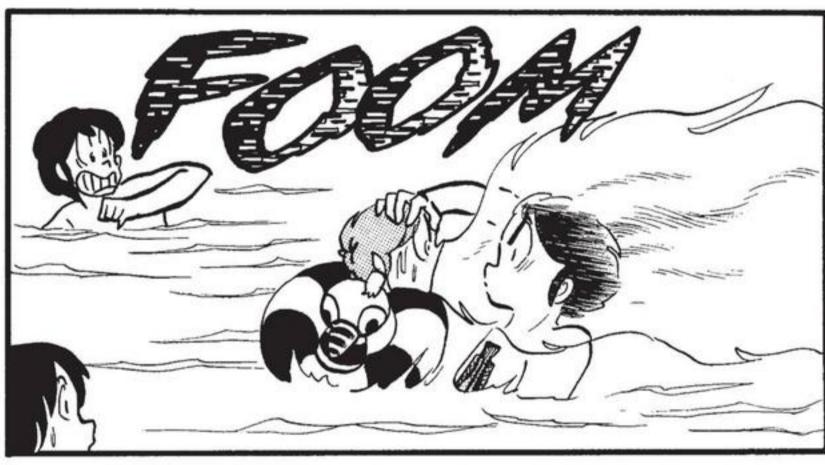










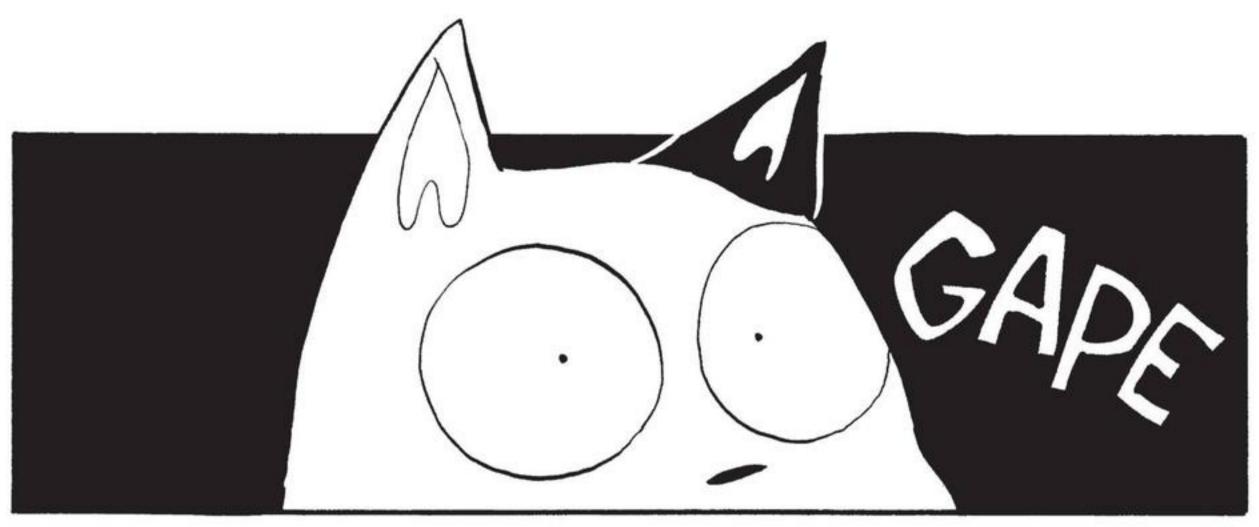


















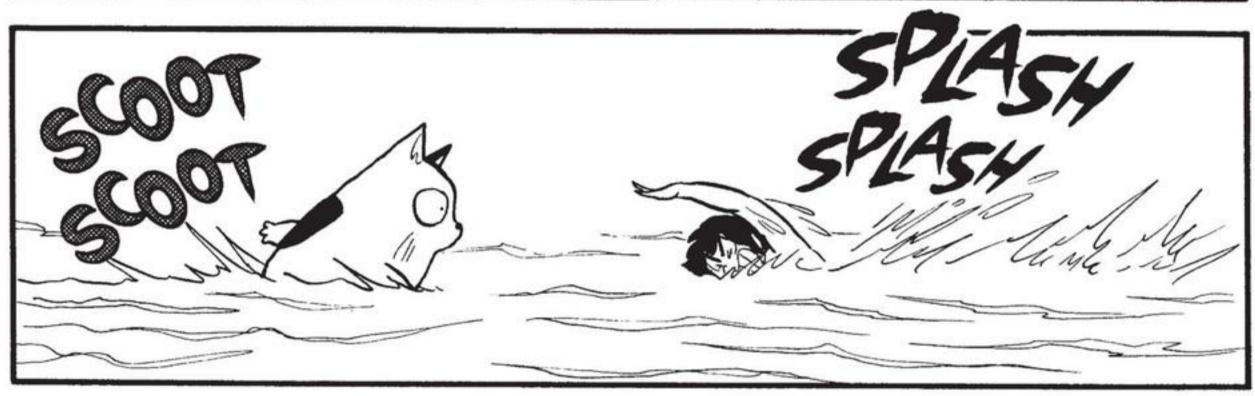




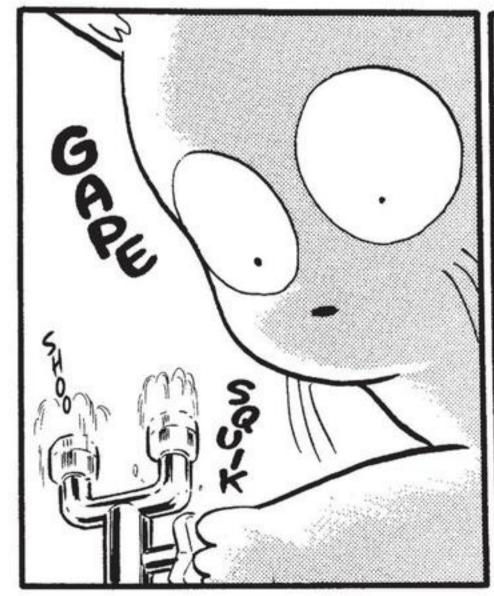














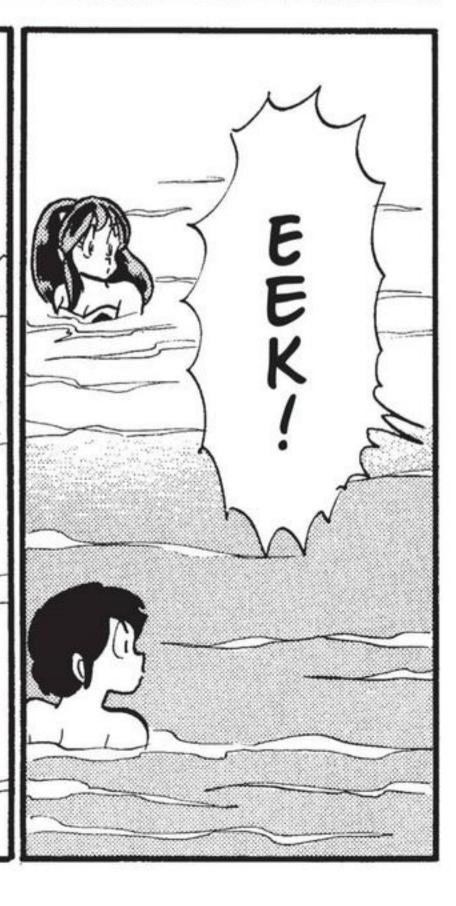


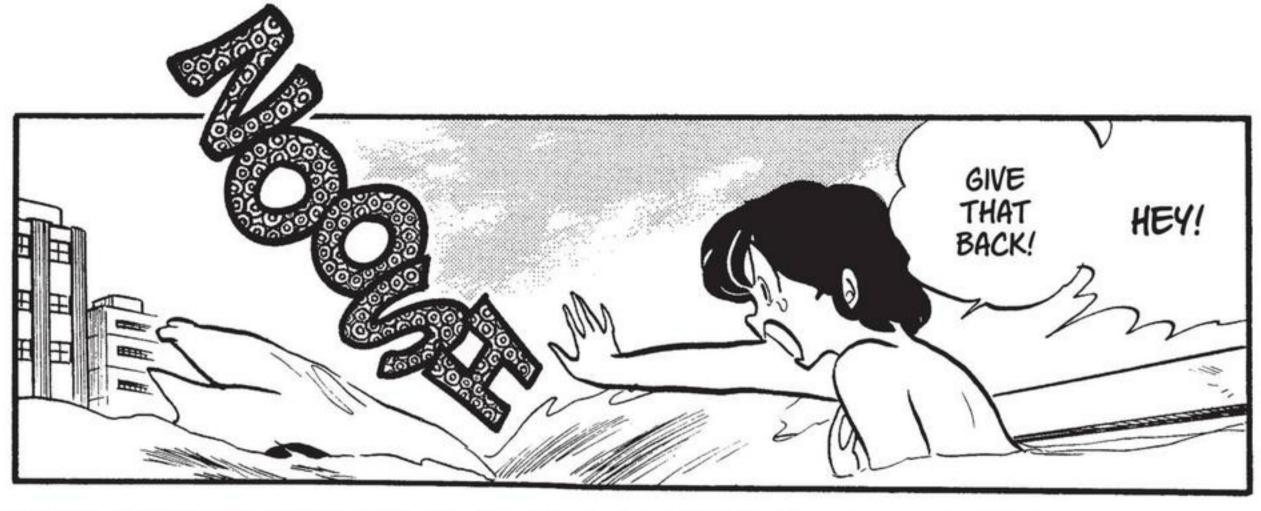


















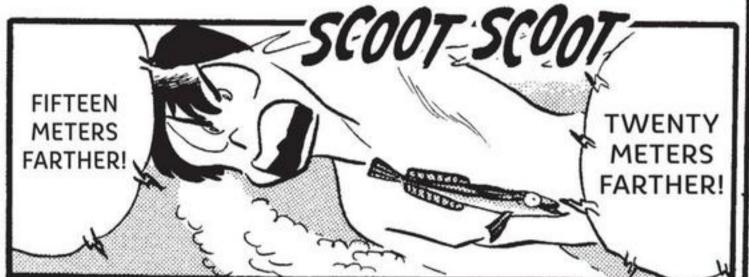


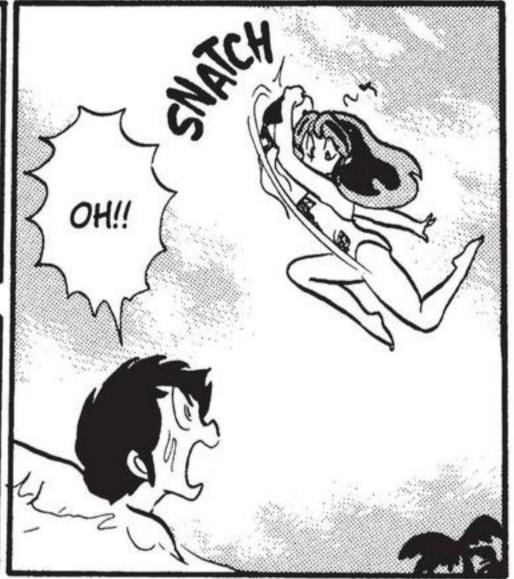


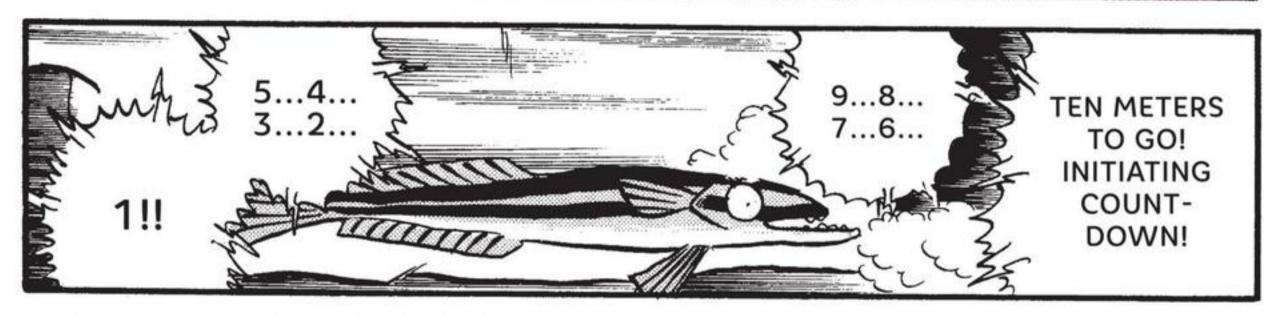


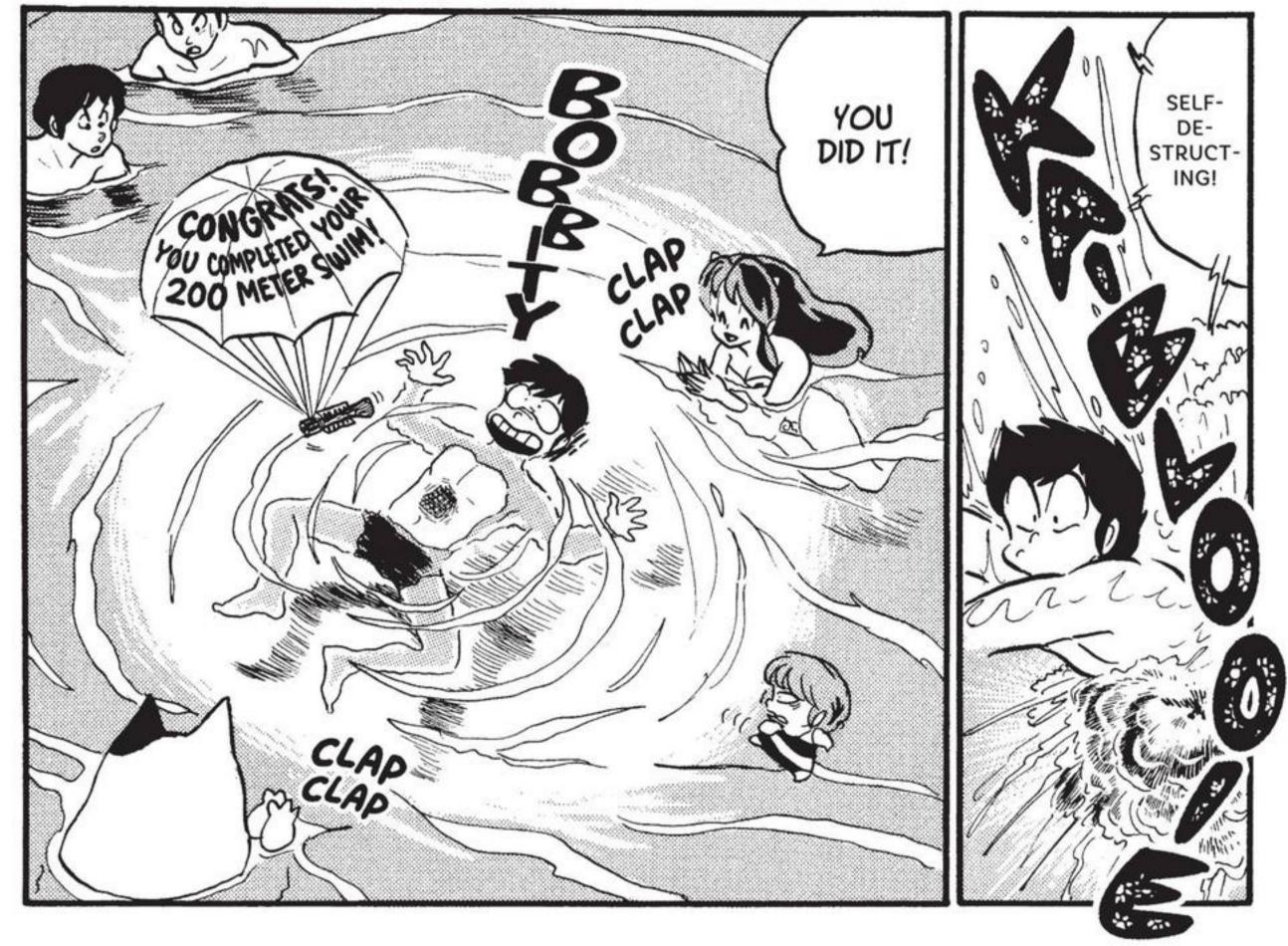


















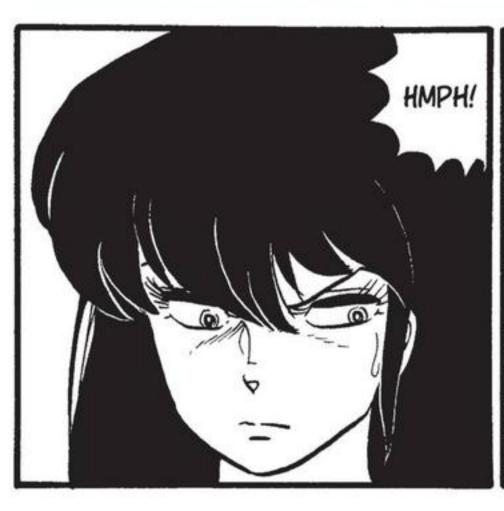






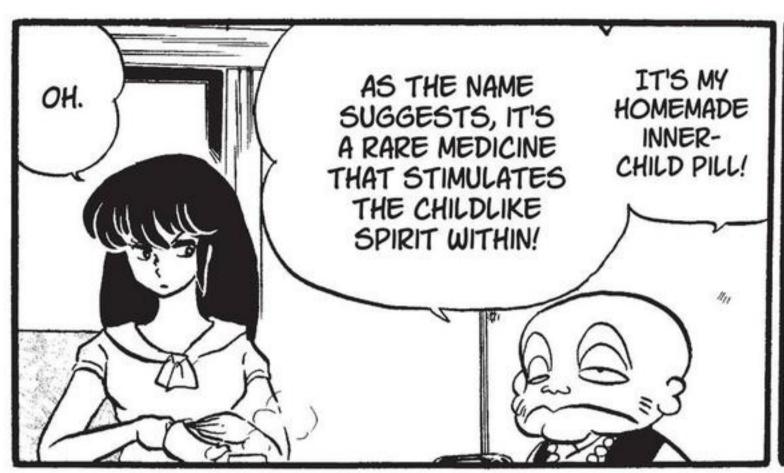




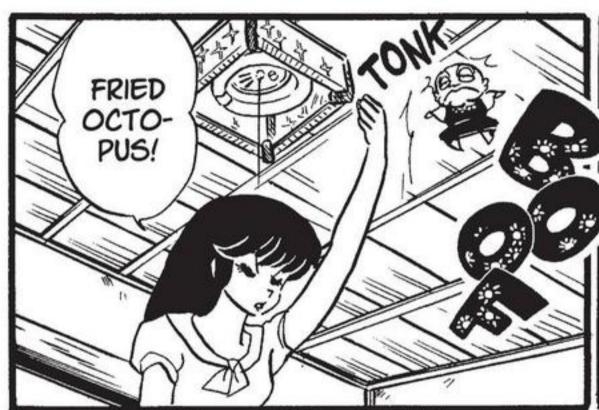






















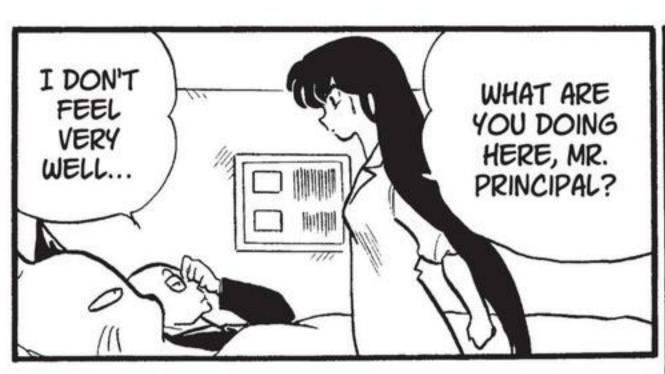






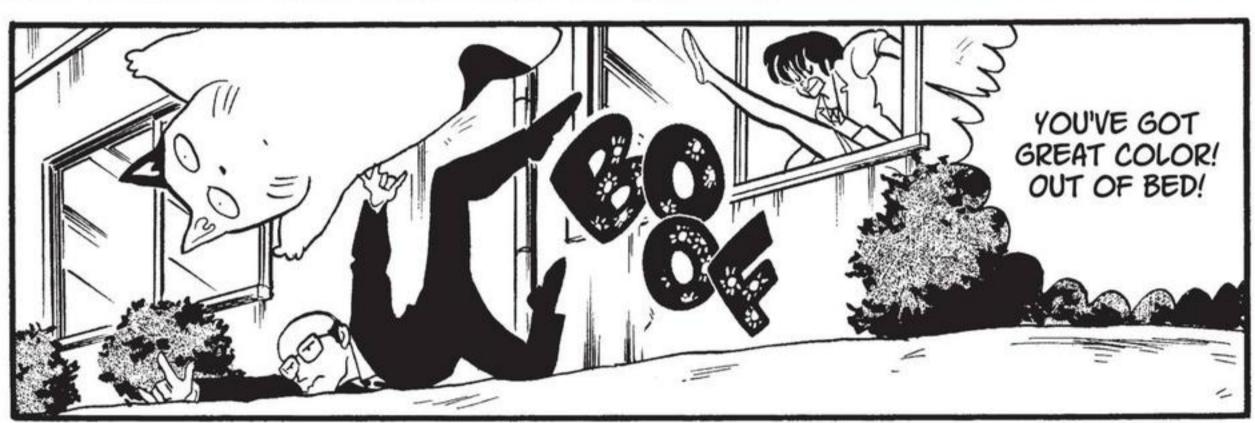










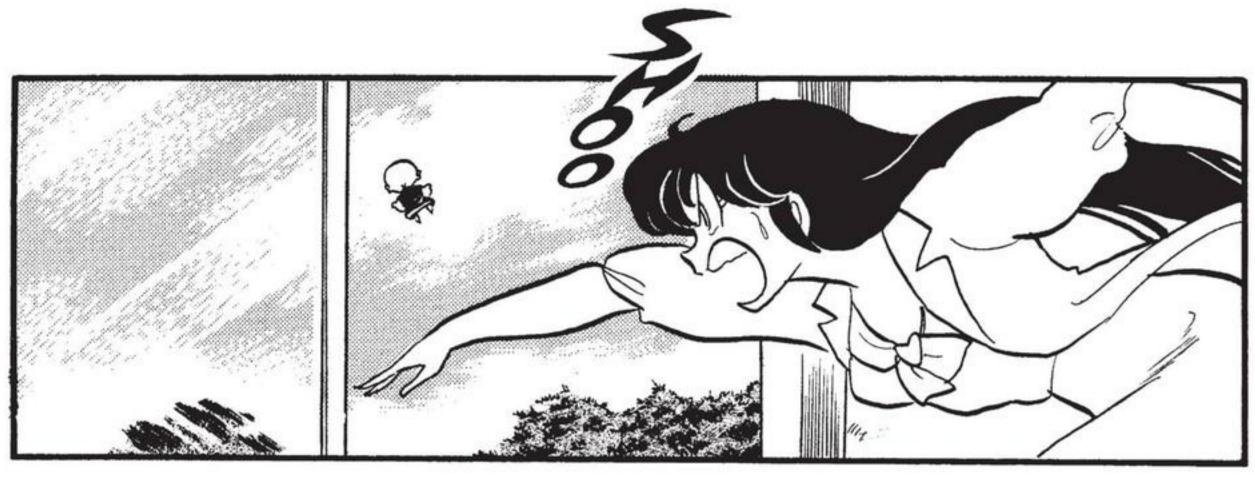










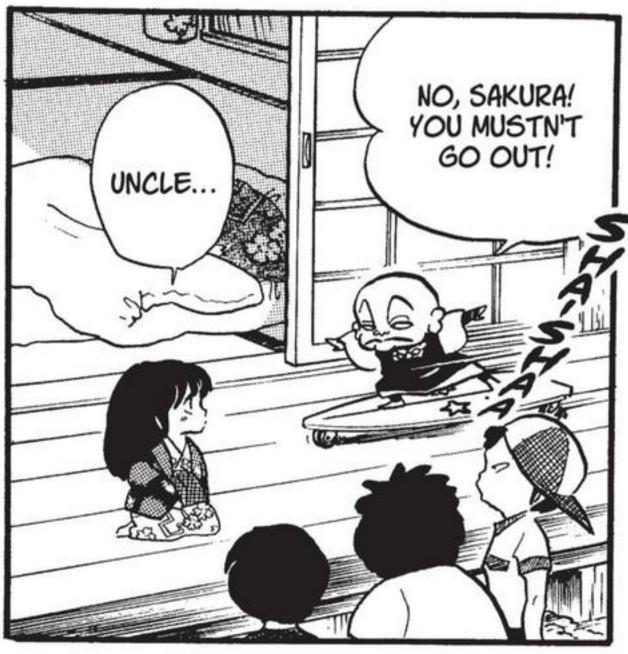
















NOK









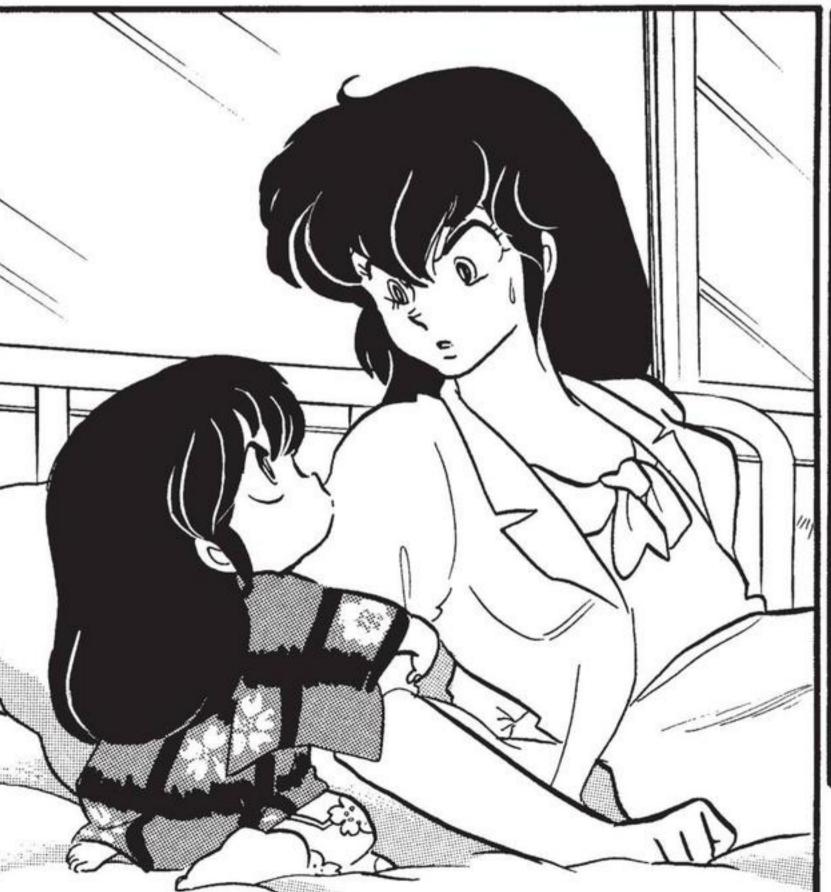


LET'S PLAY! LET'S PLAY! LET'S PLAY!

NEXT TIME! LET'S PLAY!

NOT NOW...

LET'S PLAY!





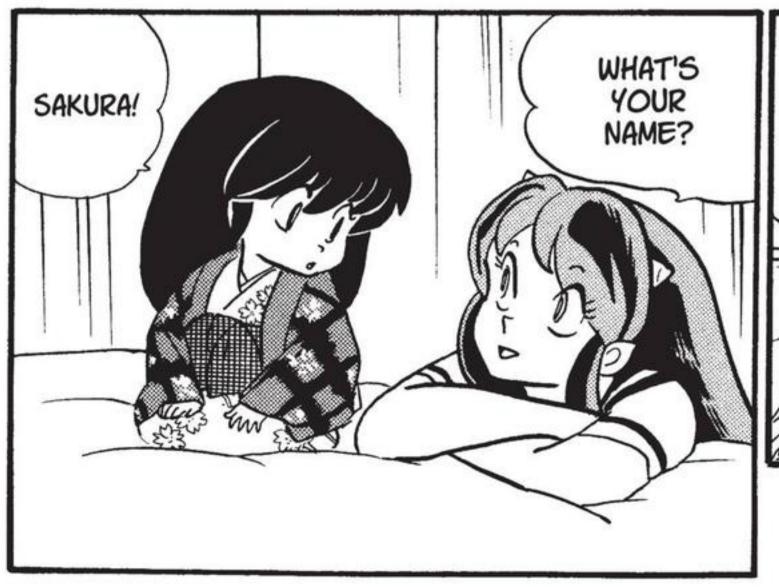




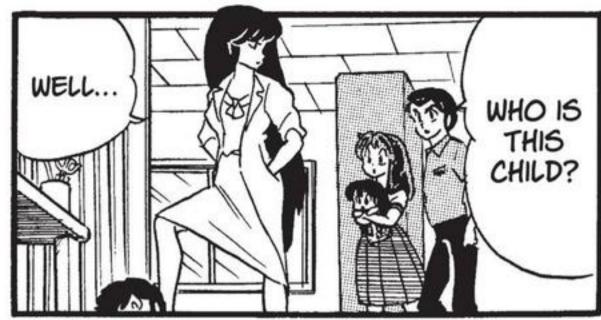












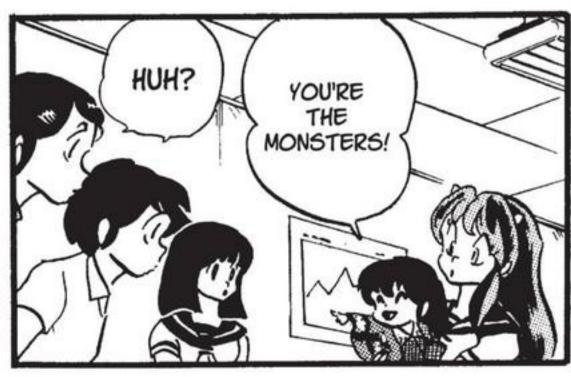
























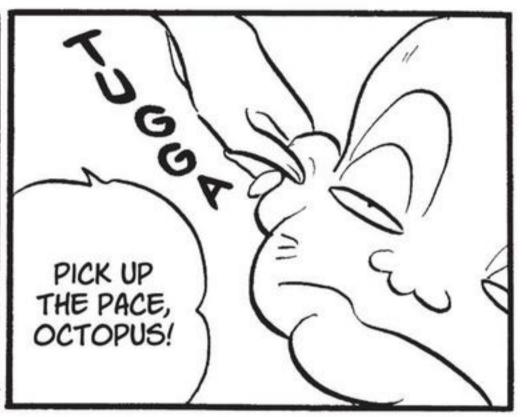


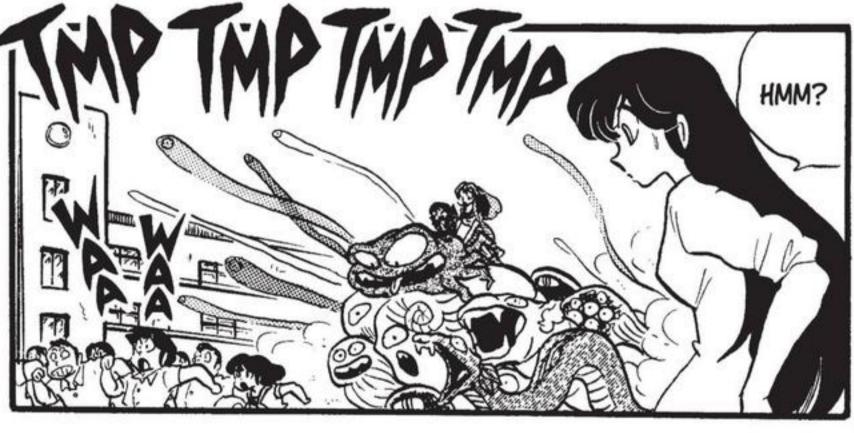


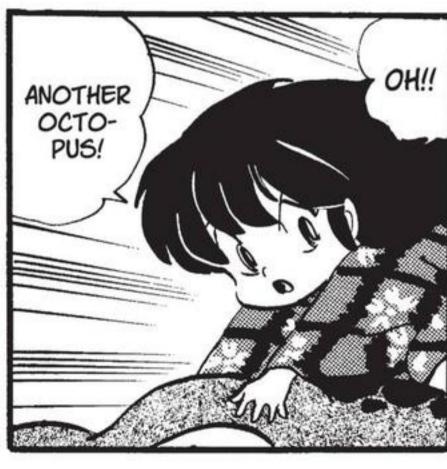




























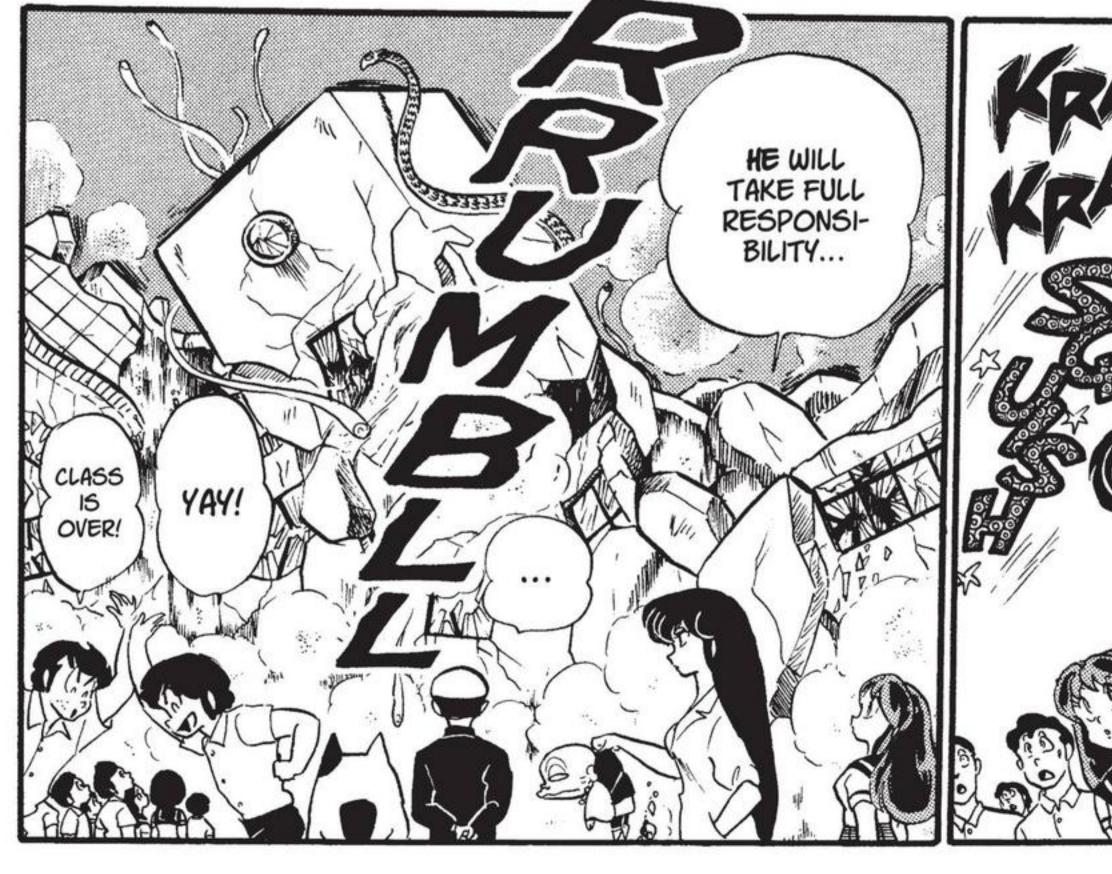




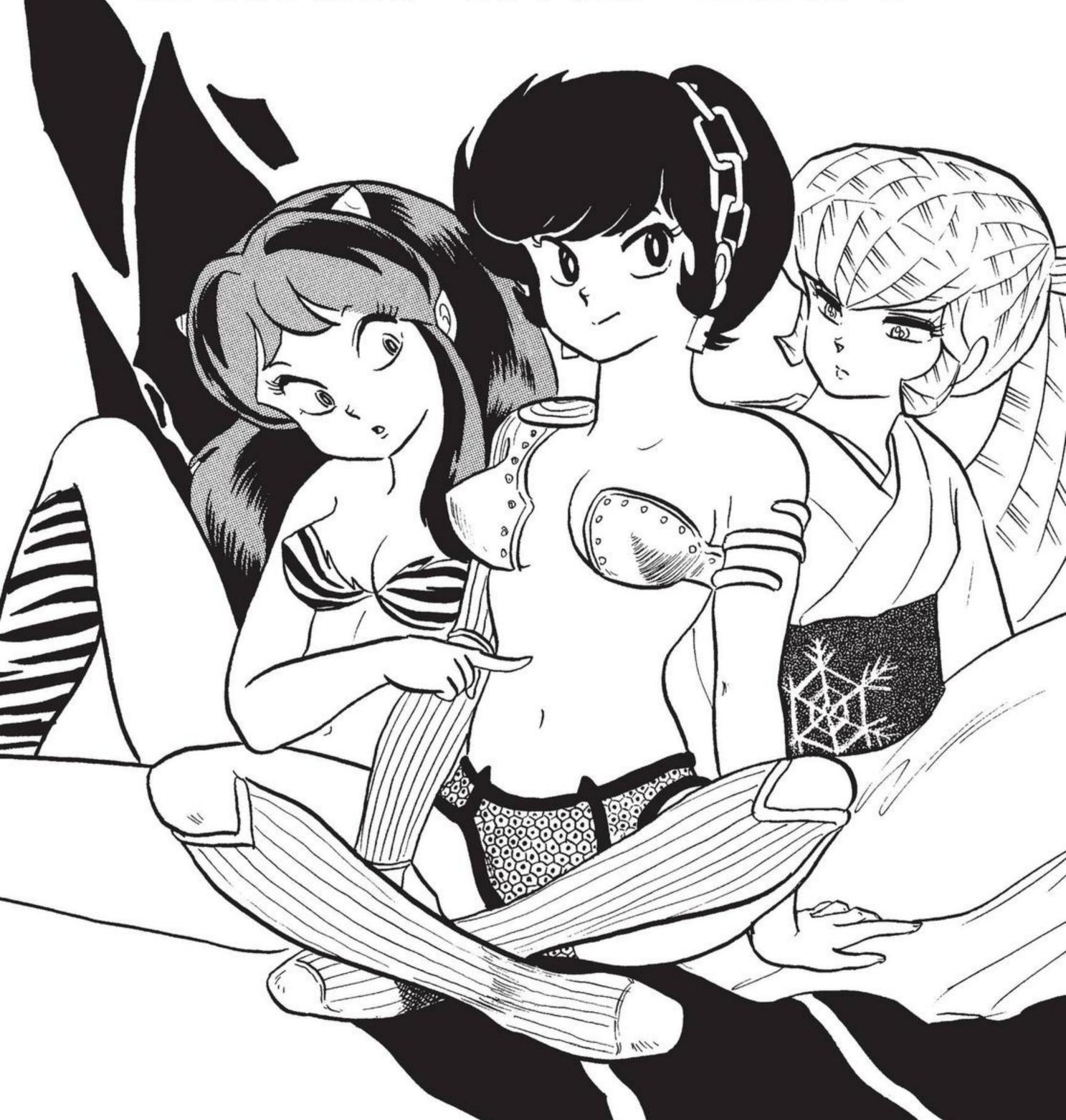


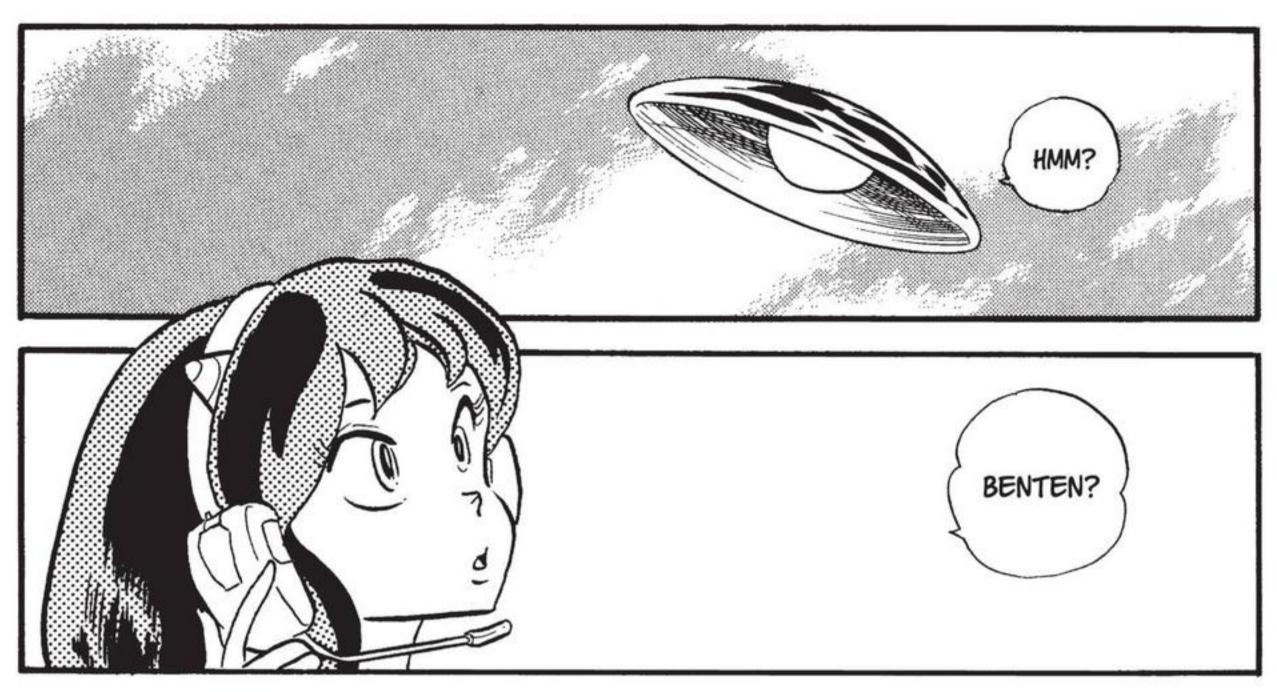


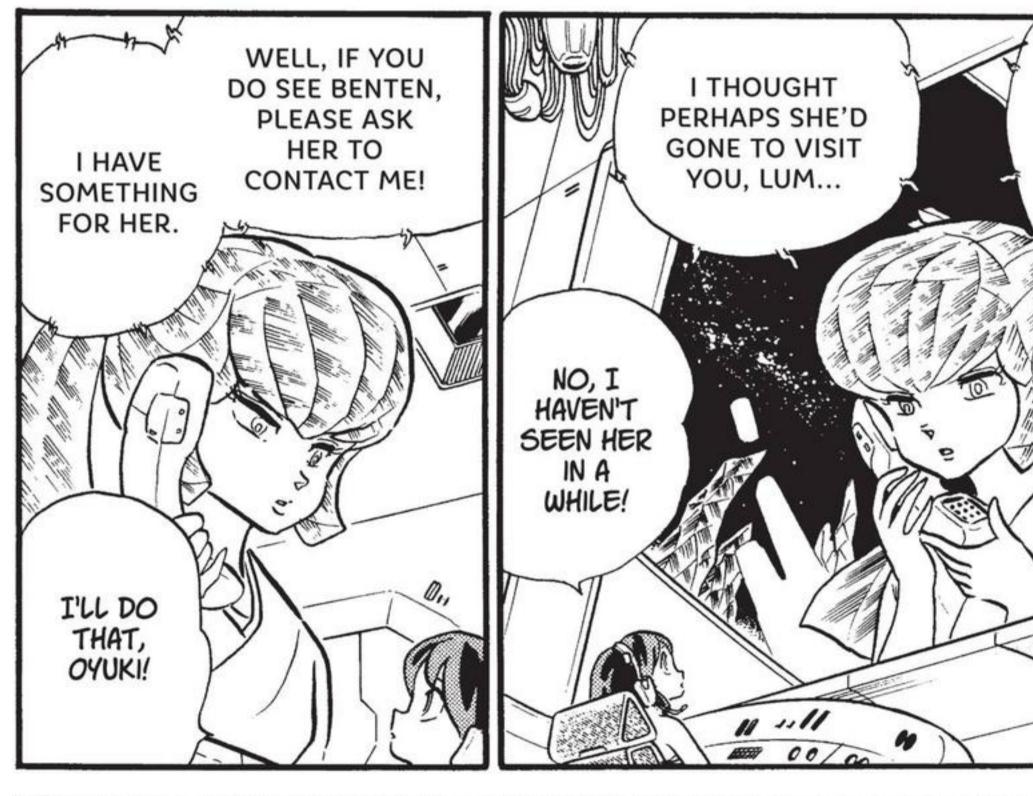




CHAPTER 9: RECOVERING THAT WHICH WAS LOST







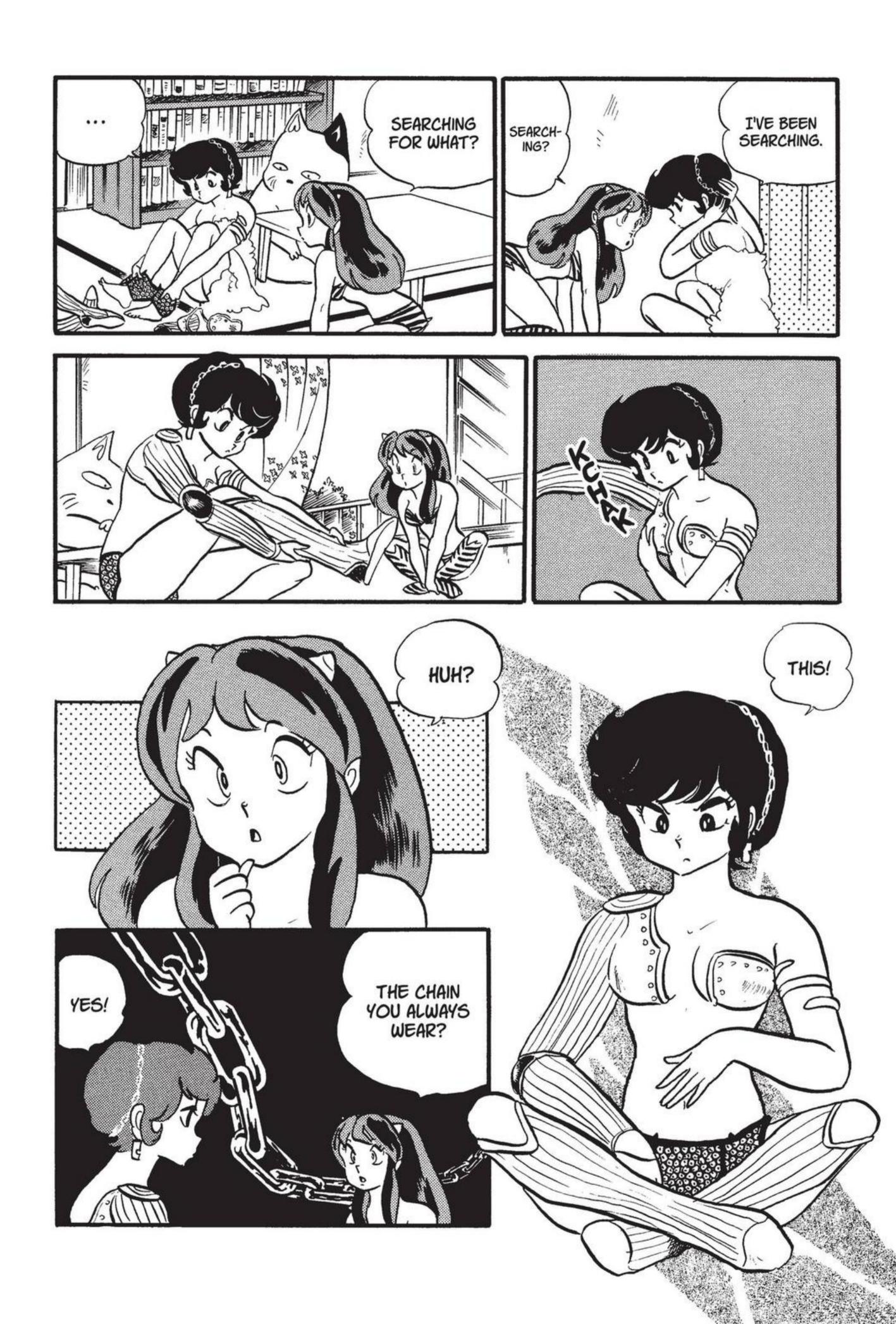


SHE HASN'T

BEEN HOME IN

SOME TIME!













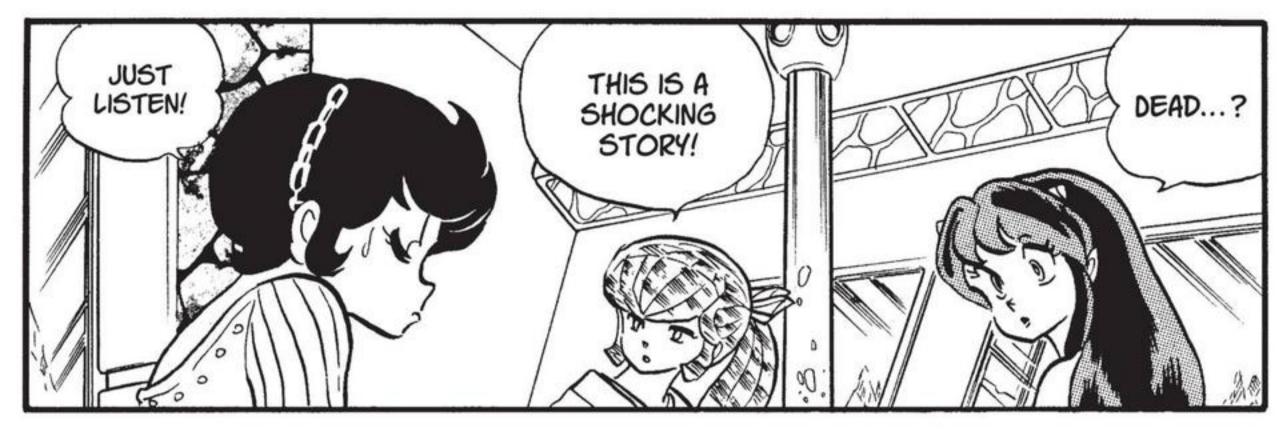






























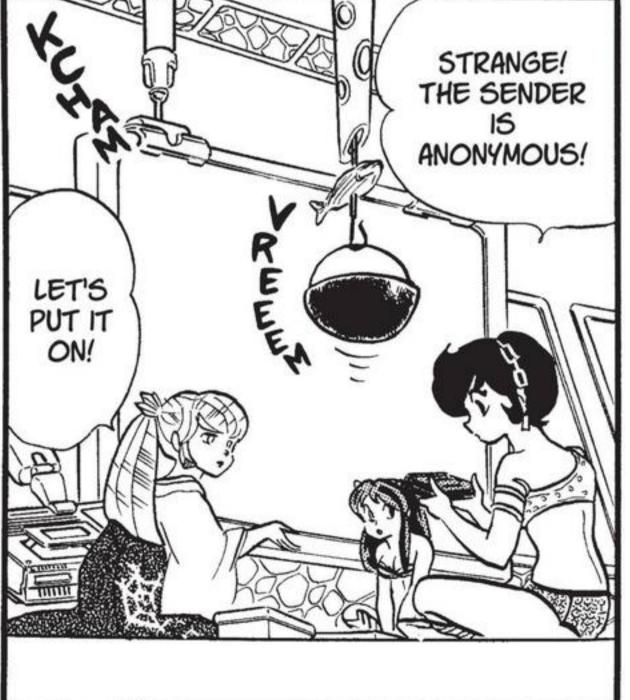


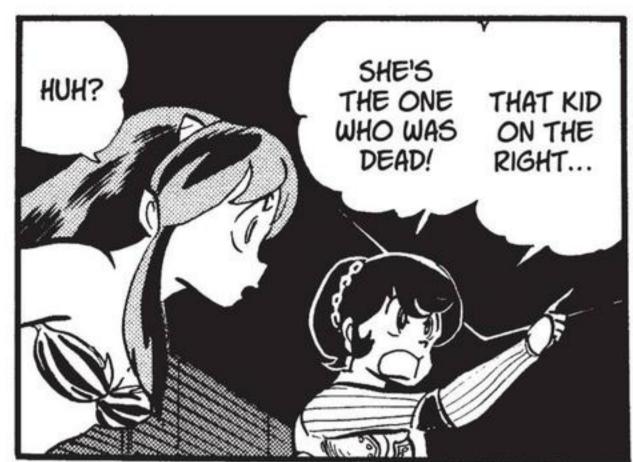


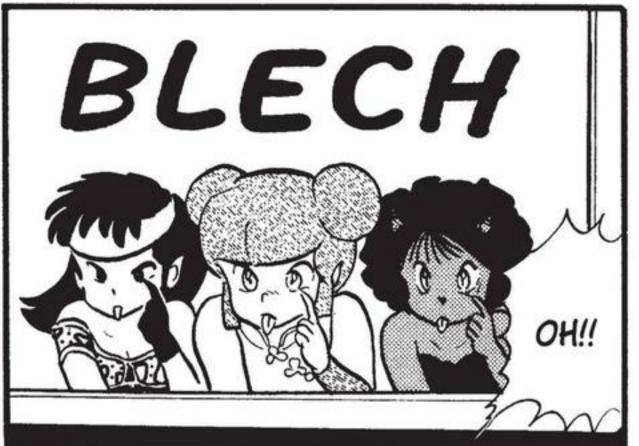








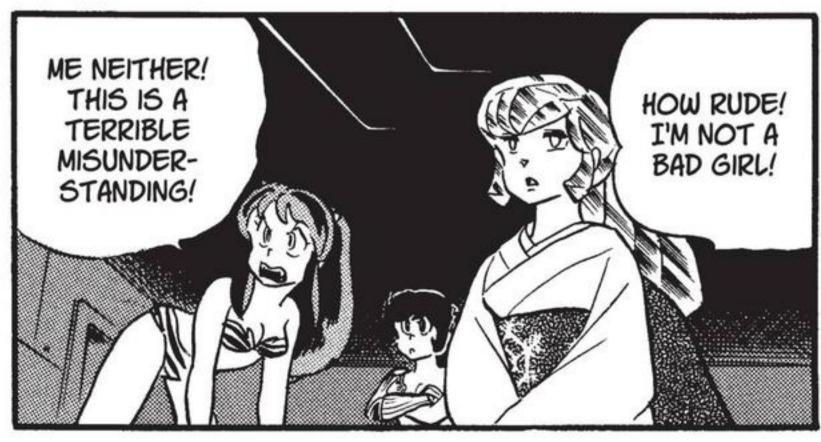








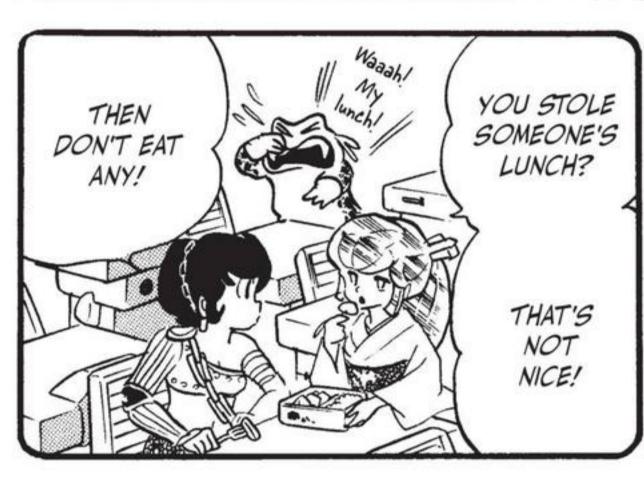






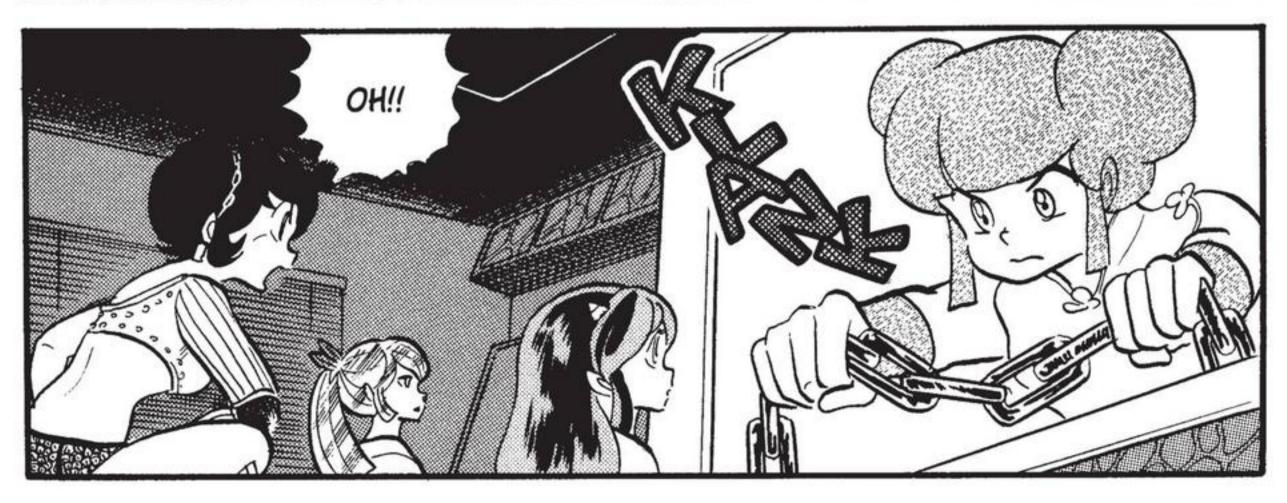


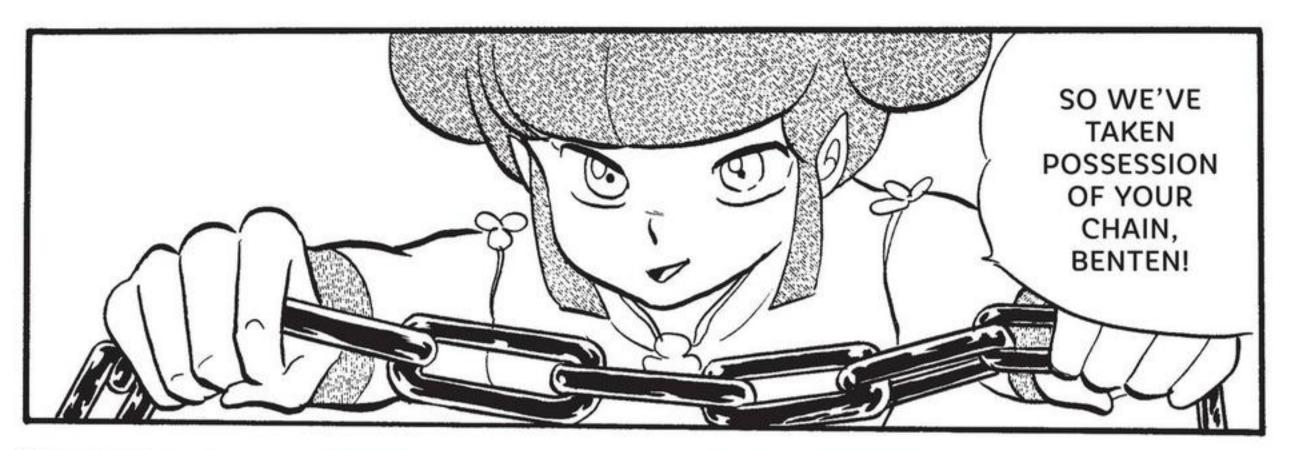








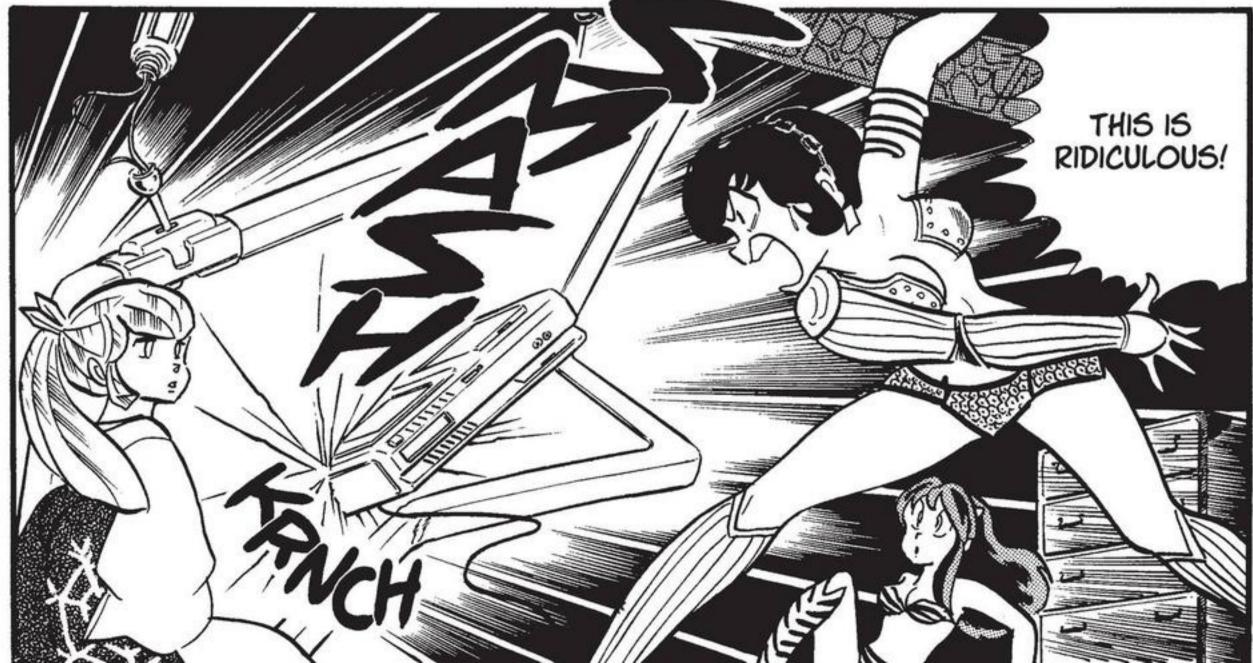


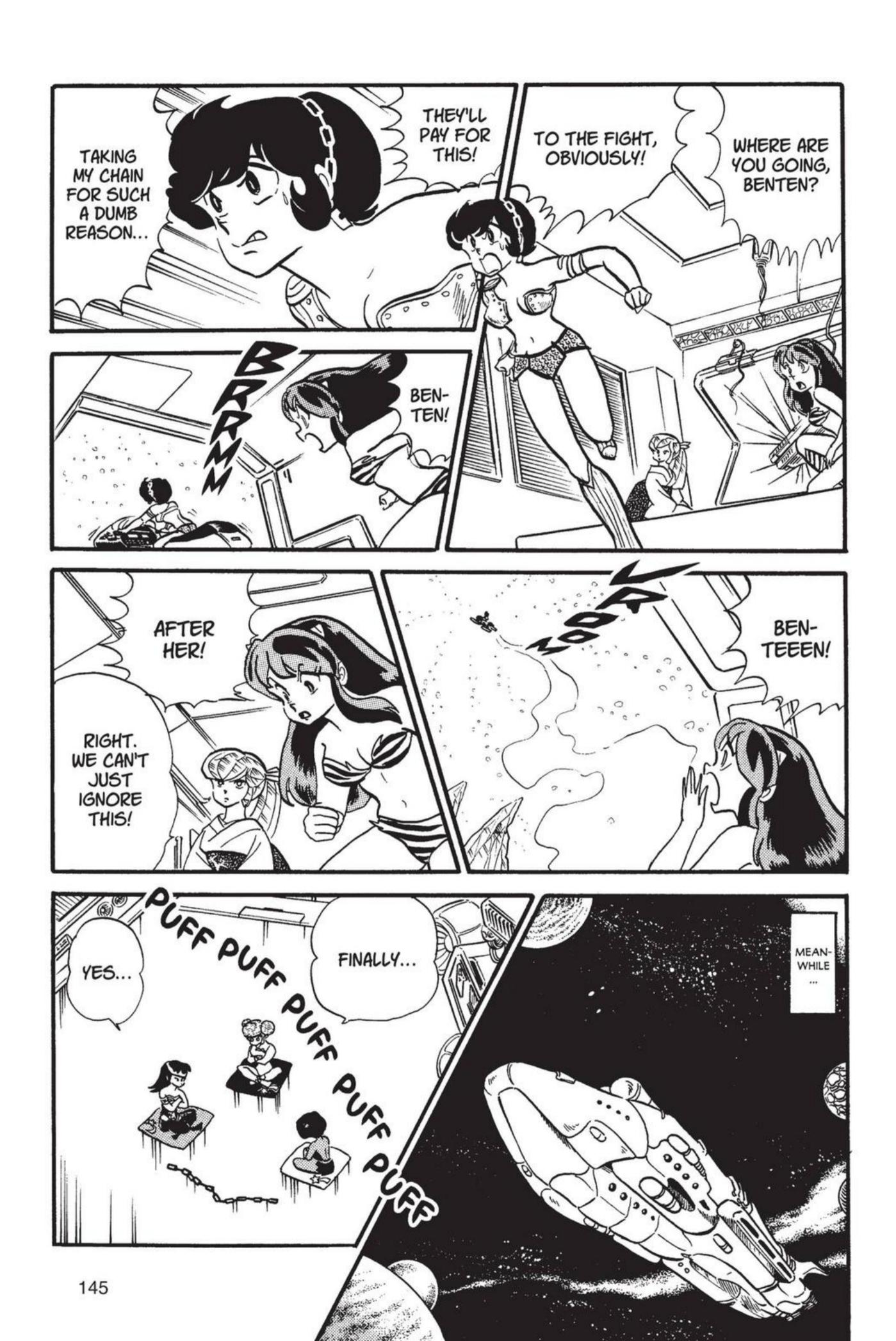




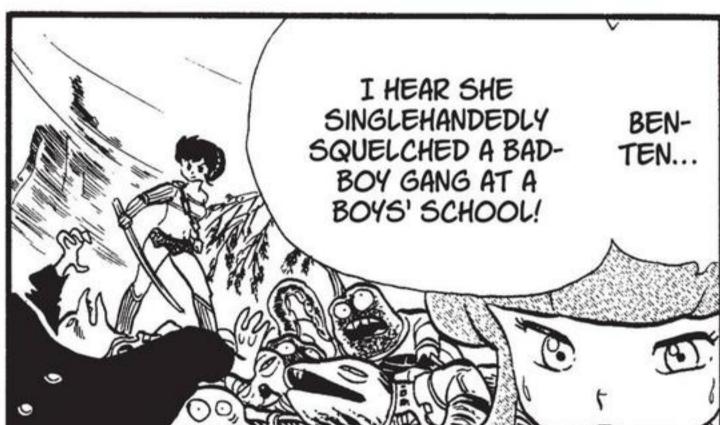




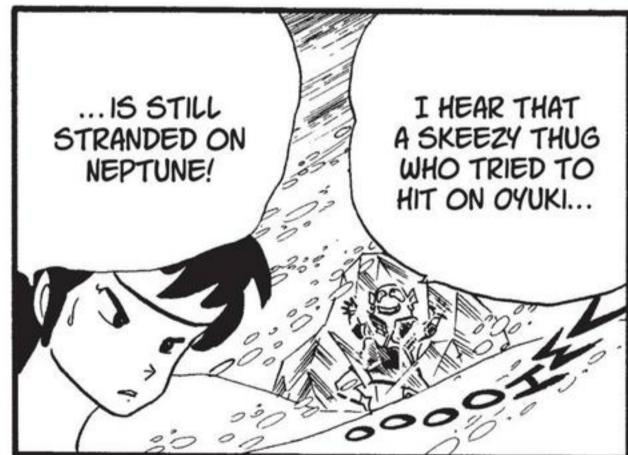


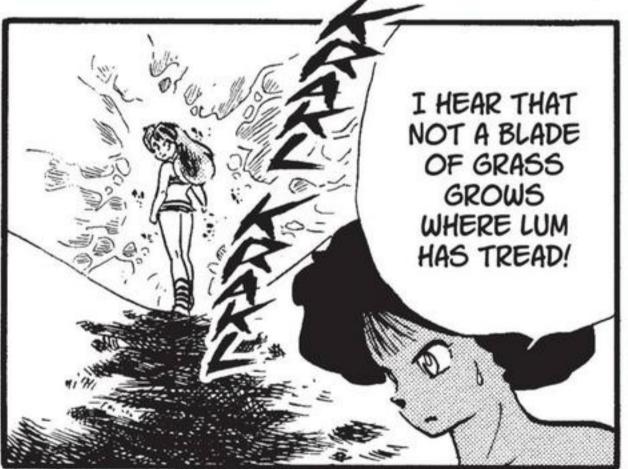




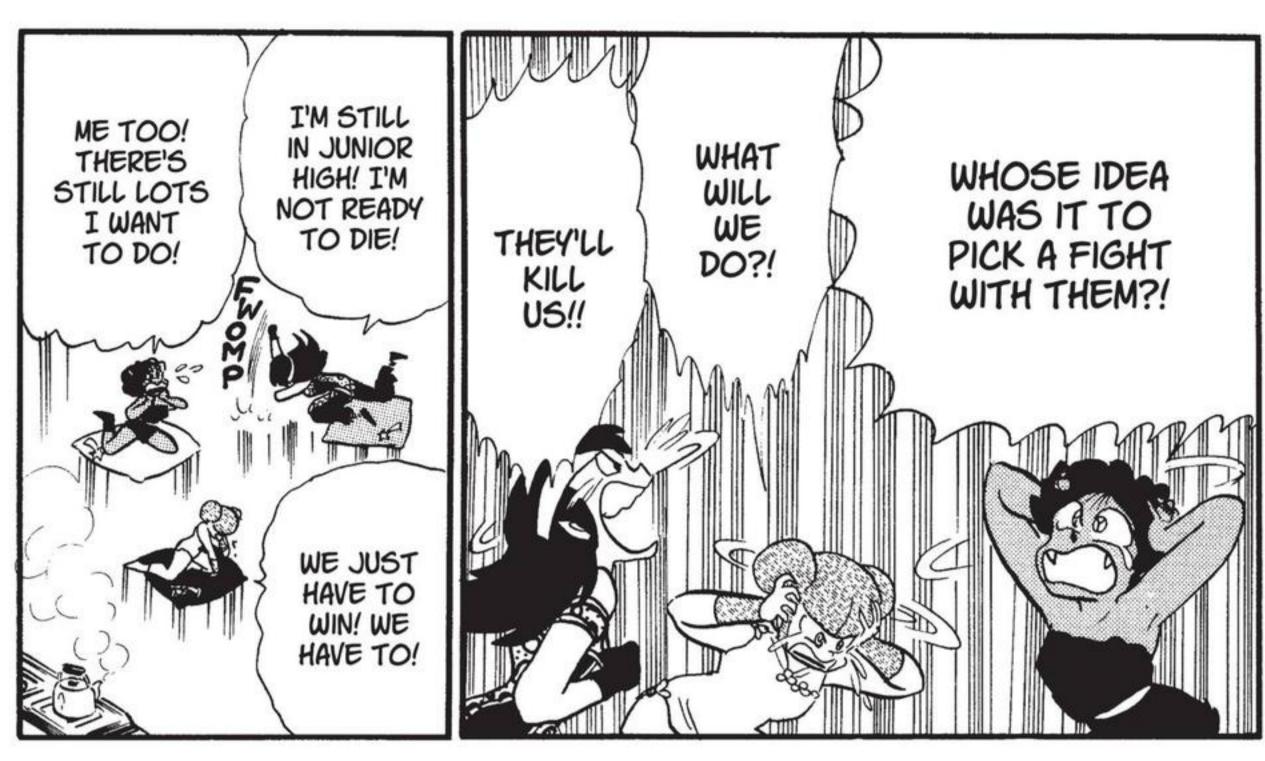


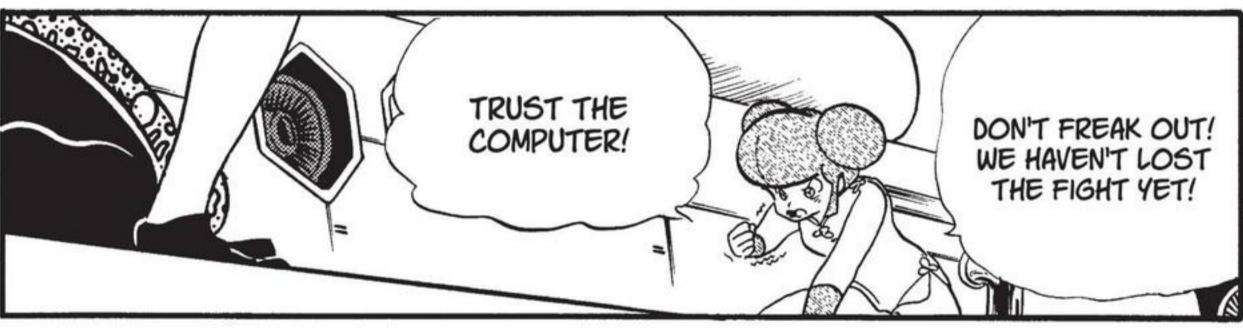


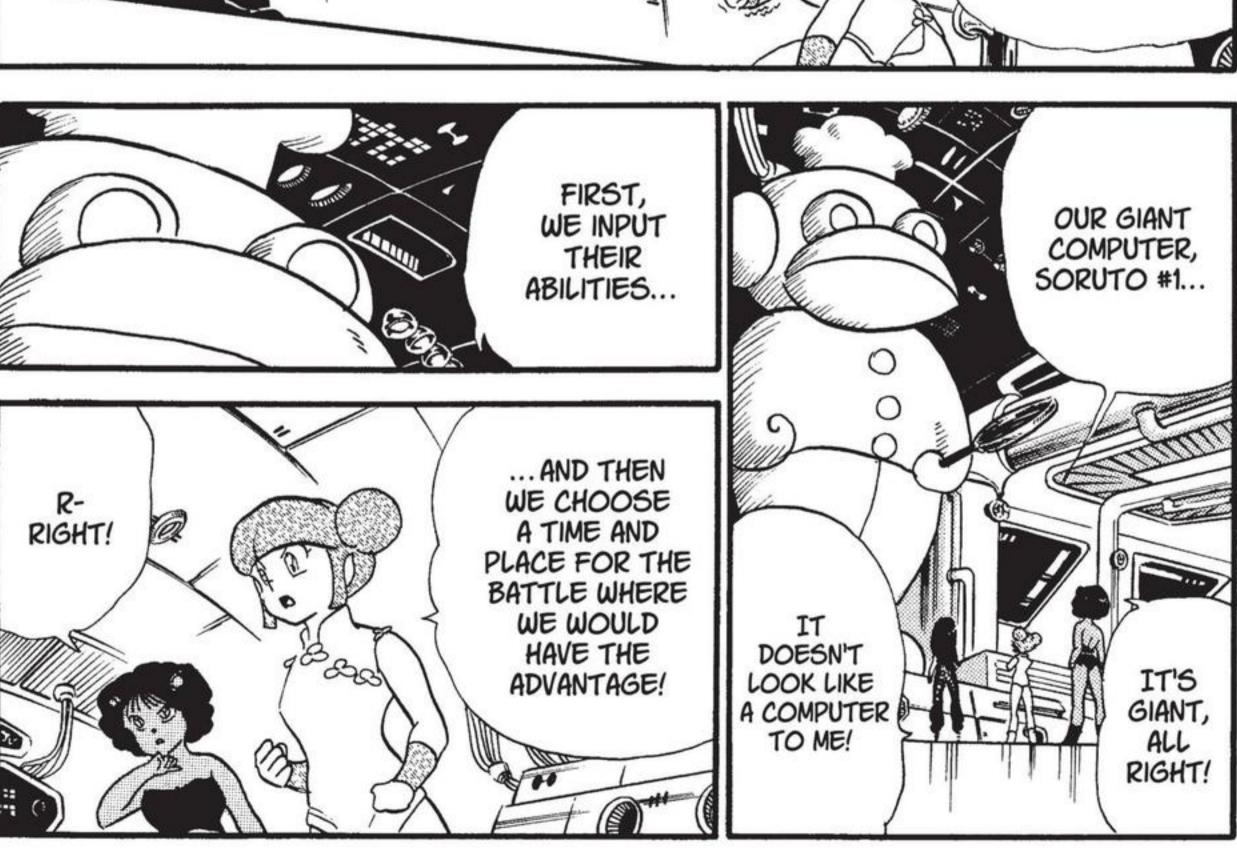












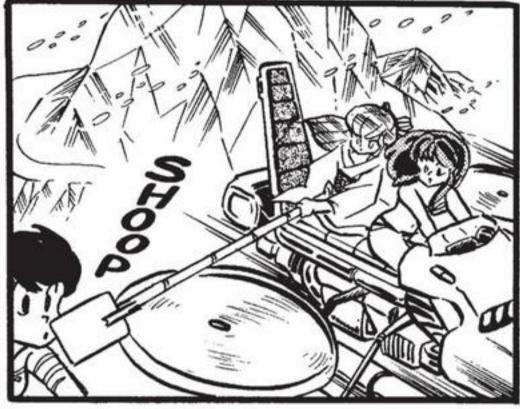


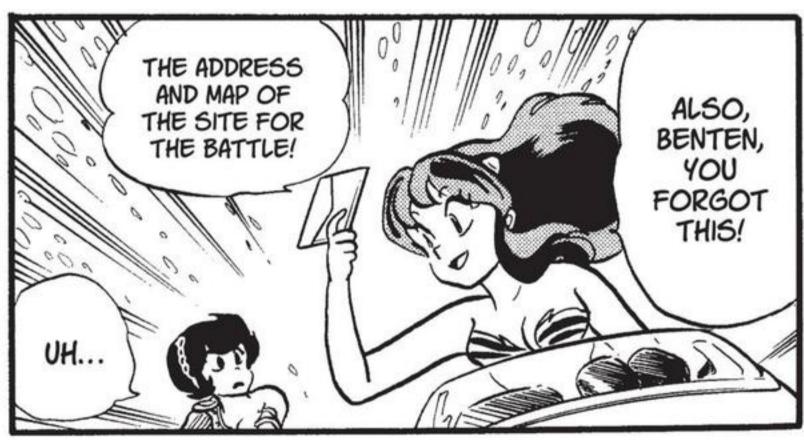


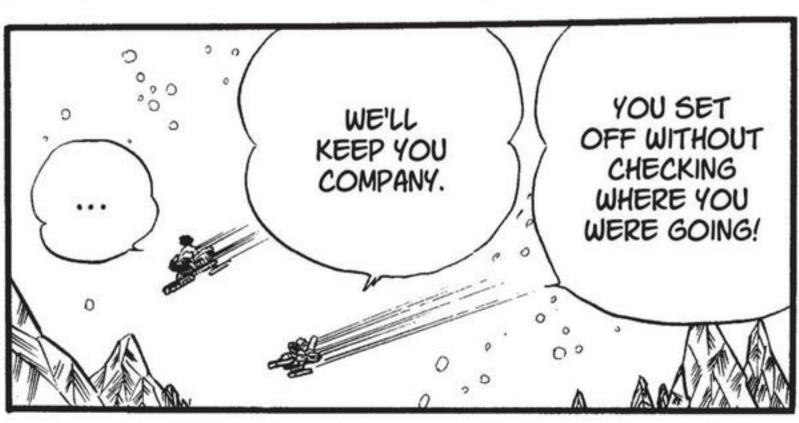


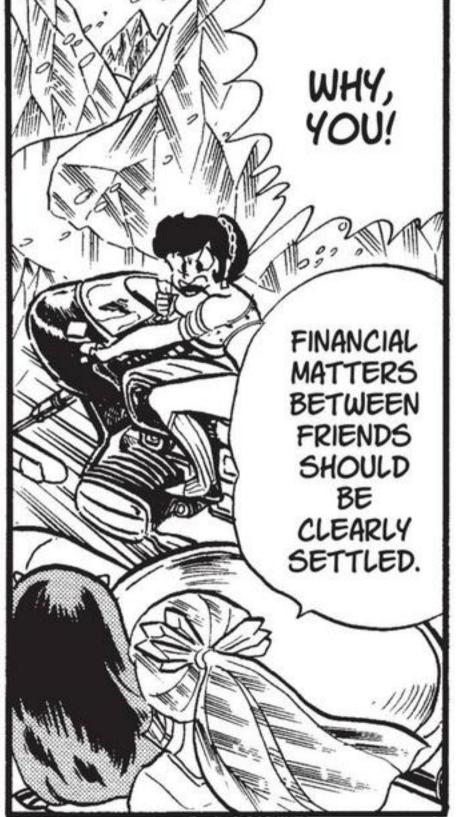


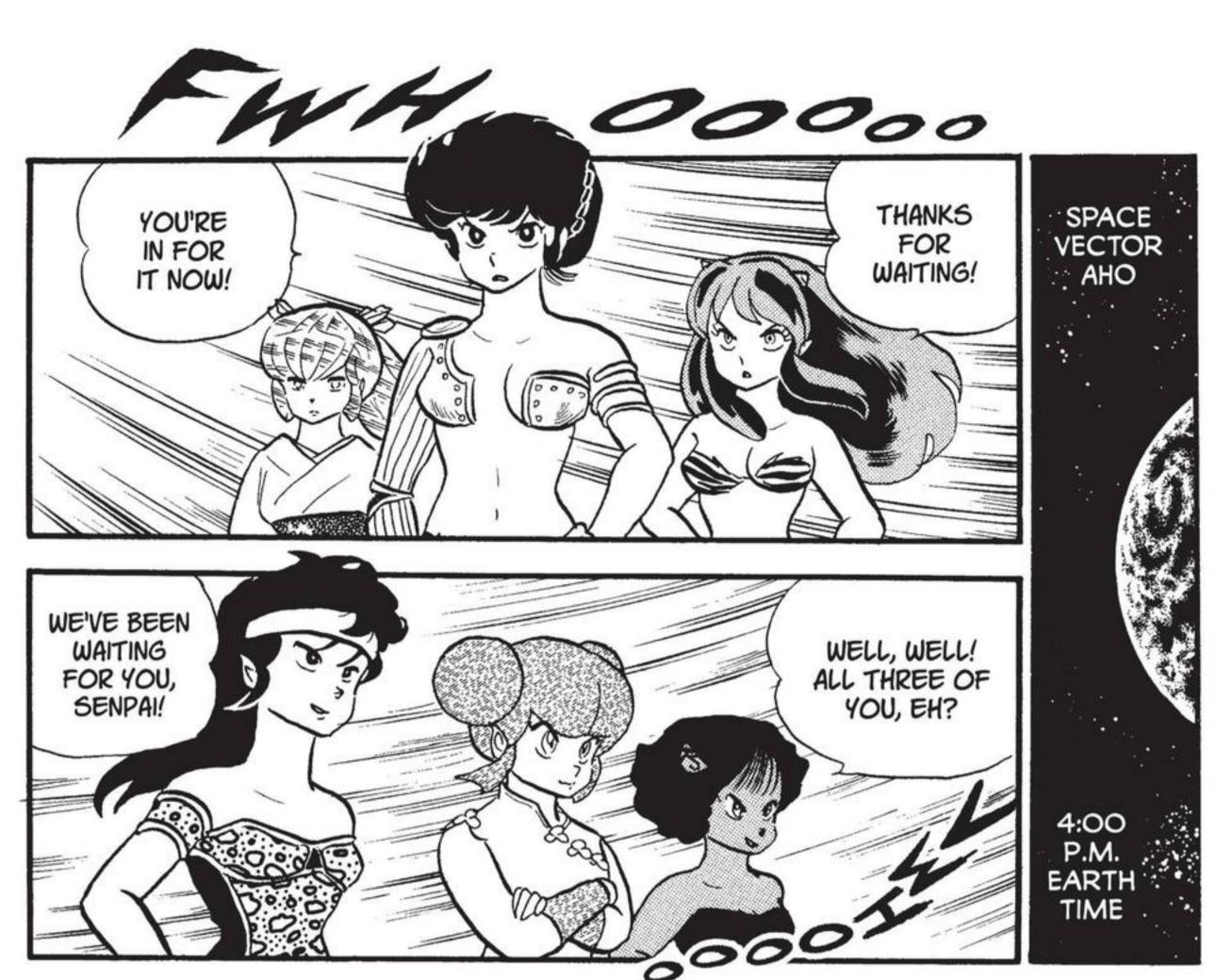


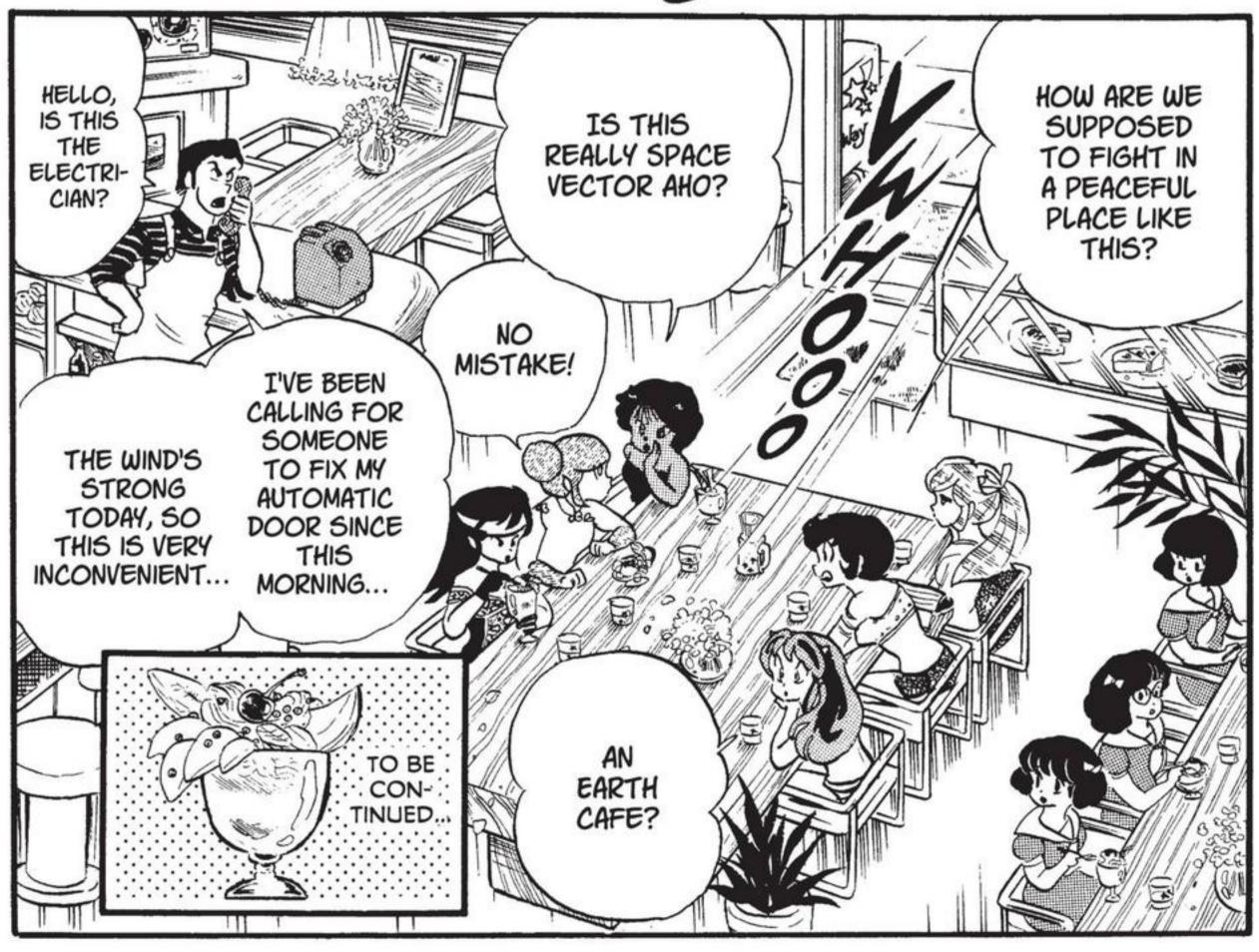












CHAPTER 10: RECOVERING THAT WHICH WAS LOST—FIERCE 3-ON-3 BATTLE



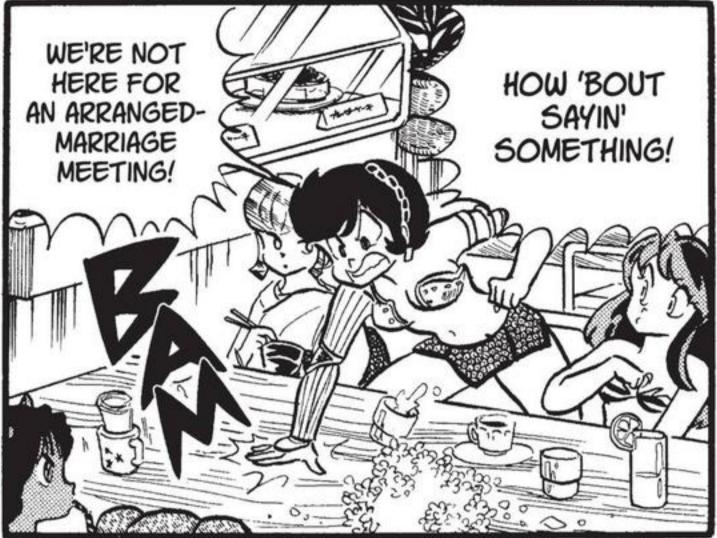








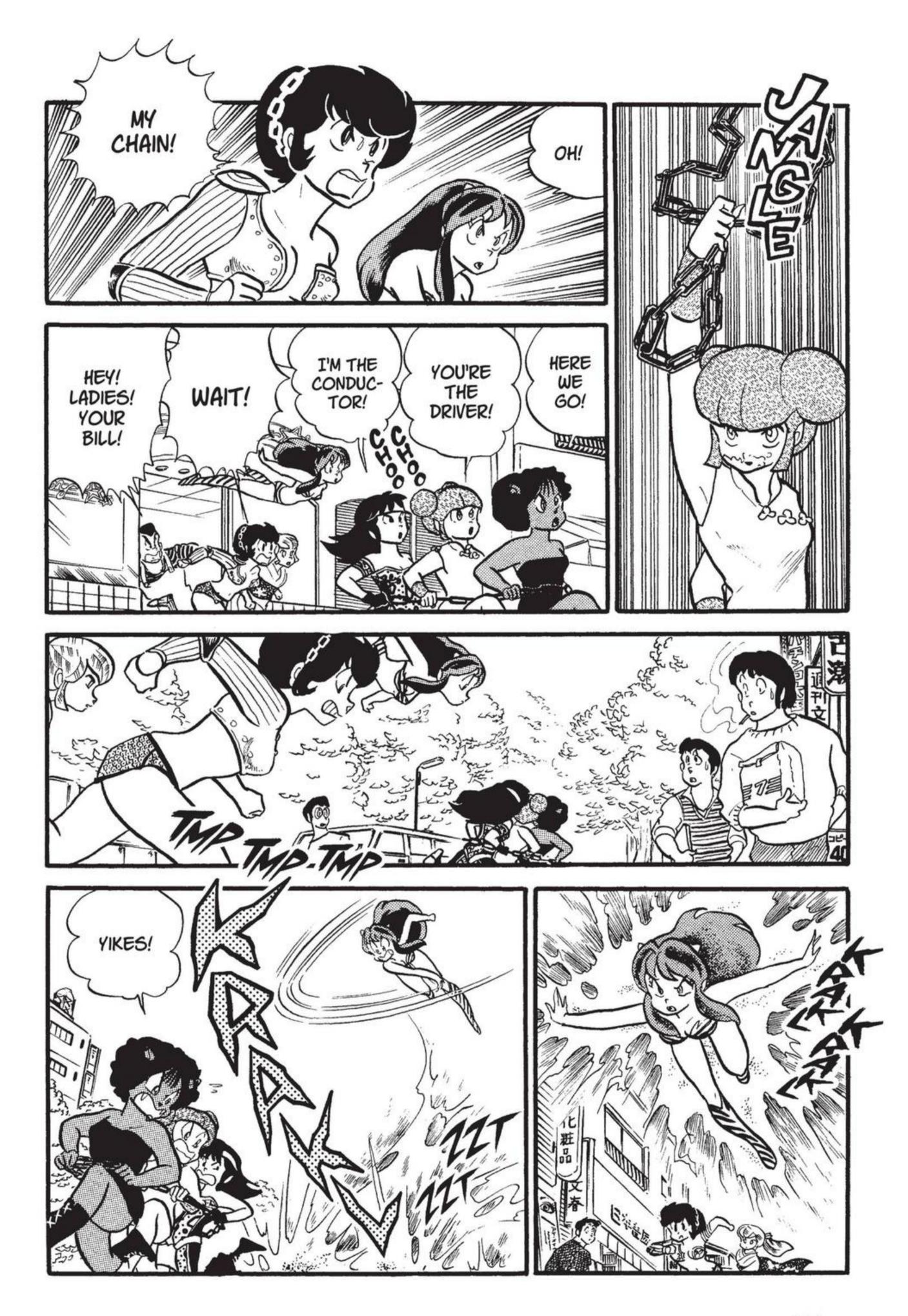






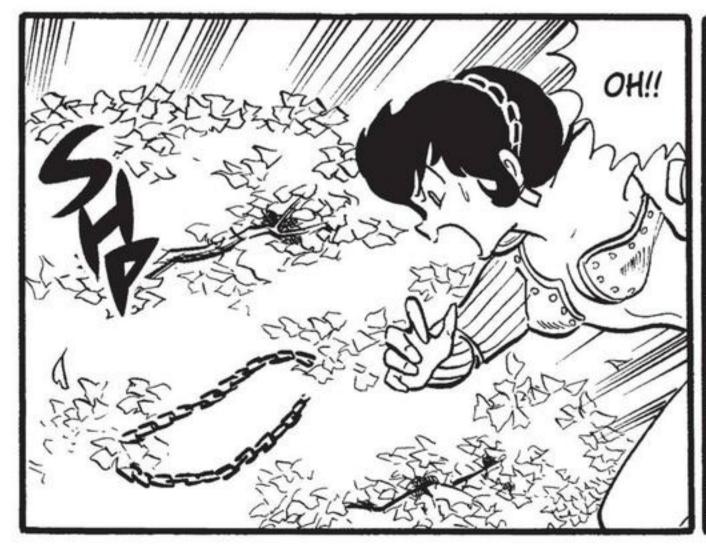




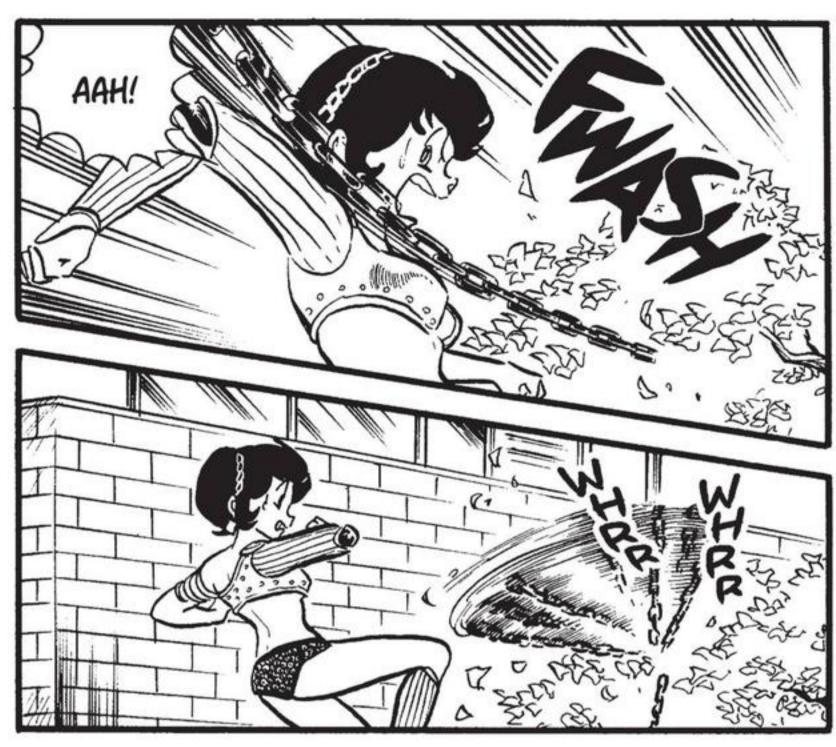


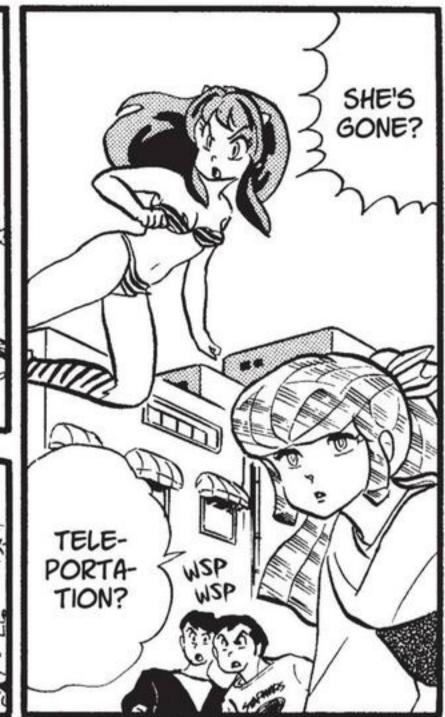






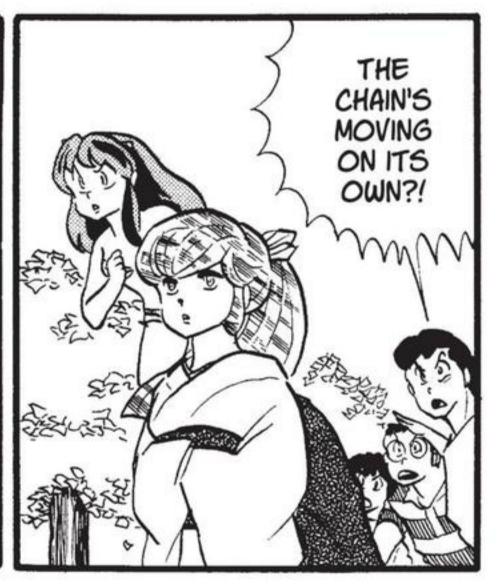


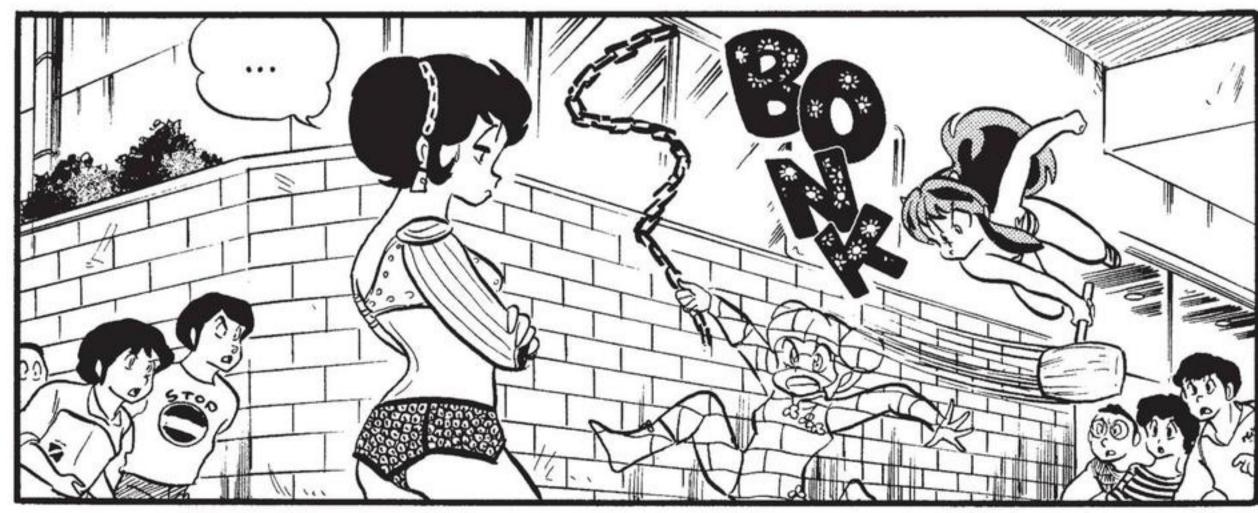






















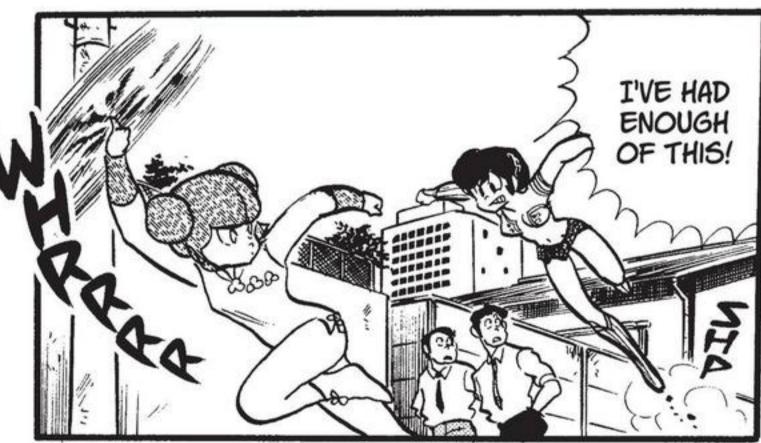






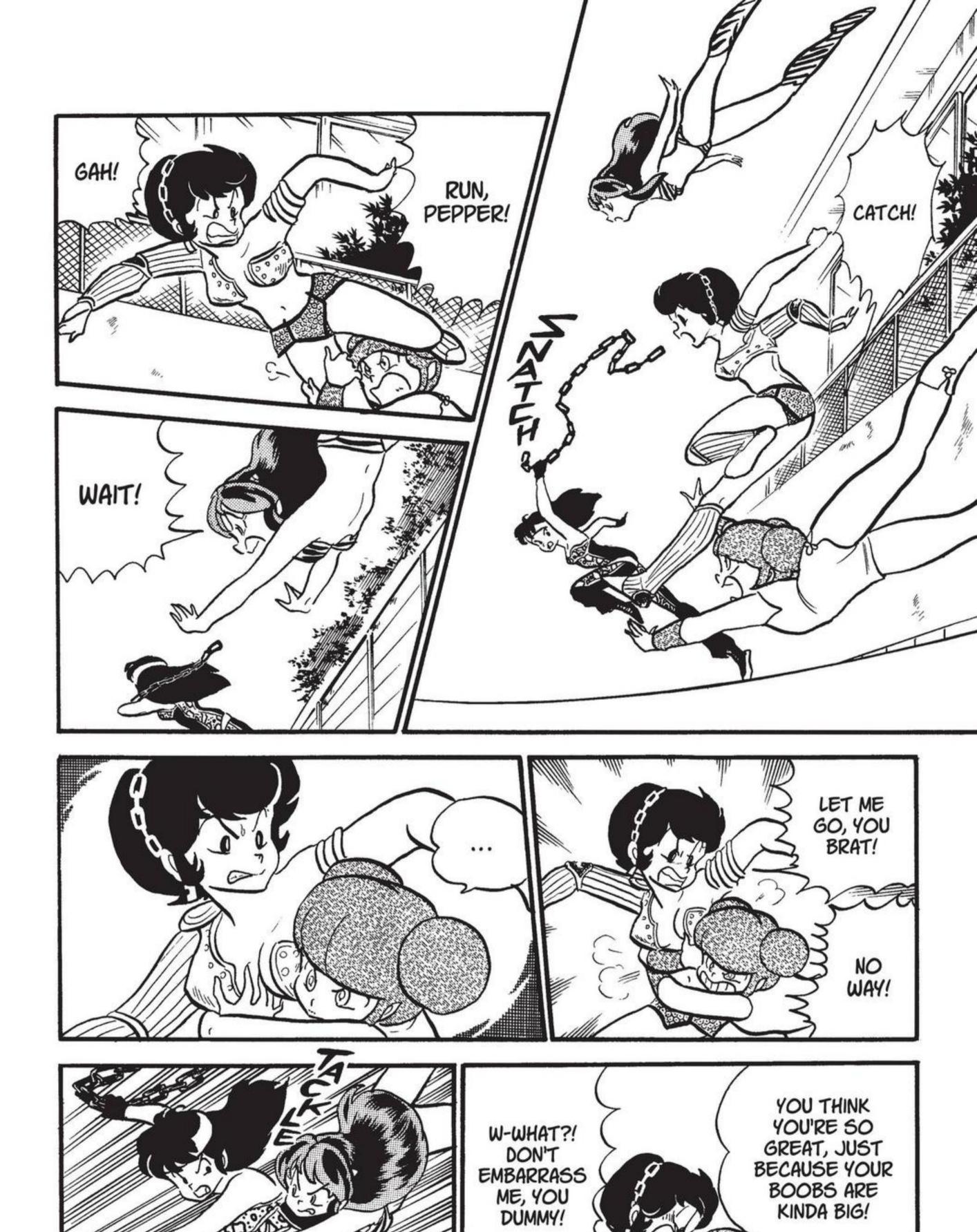




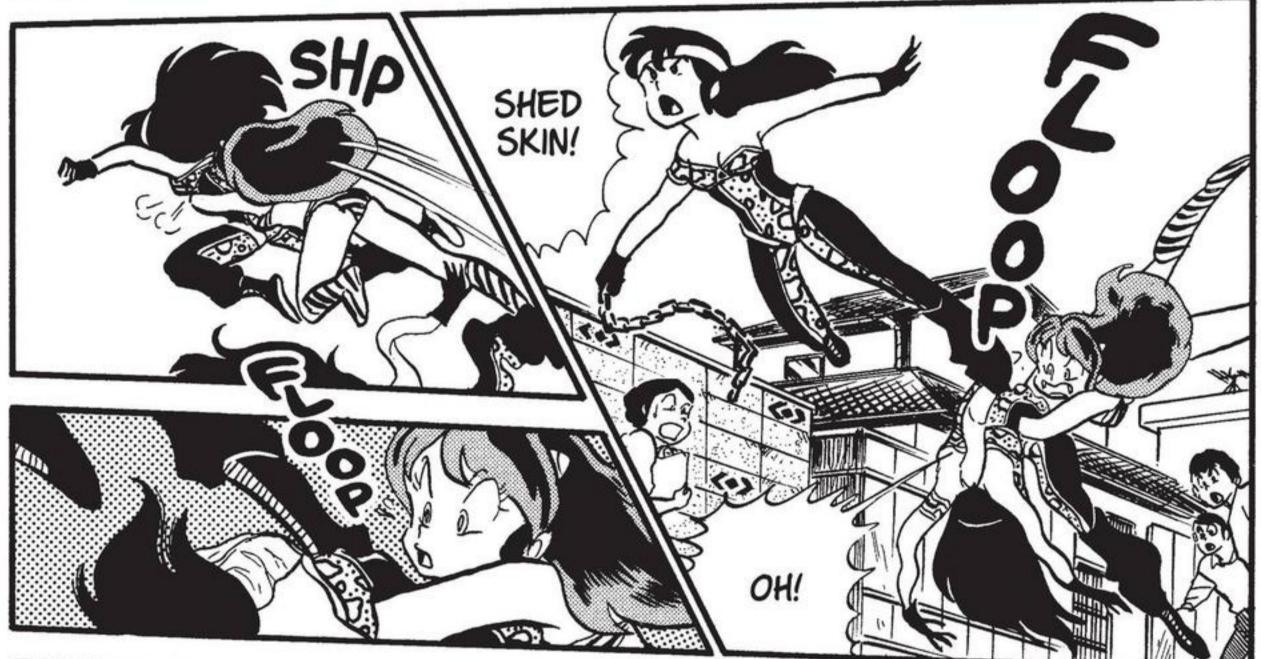


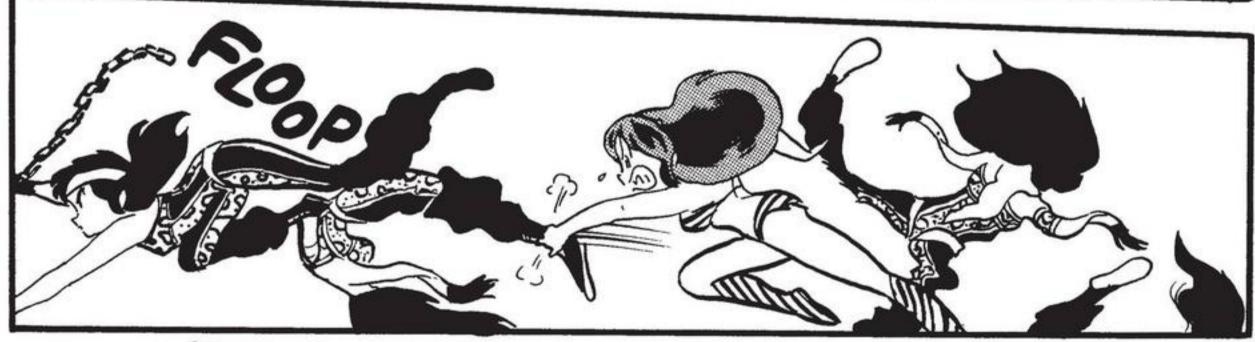




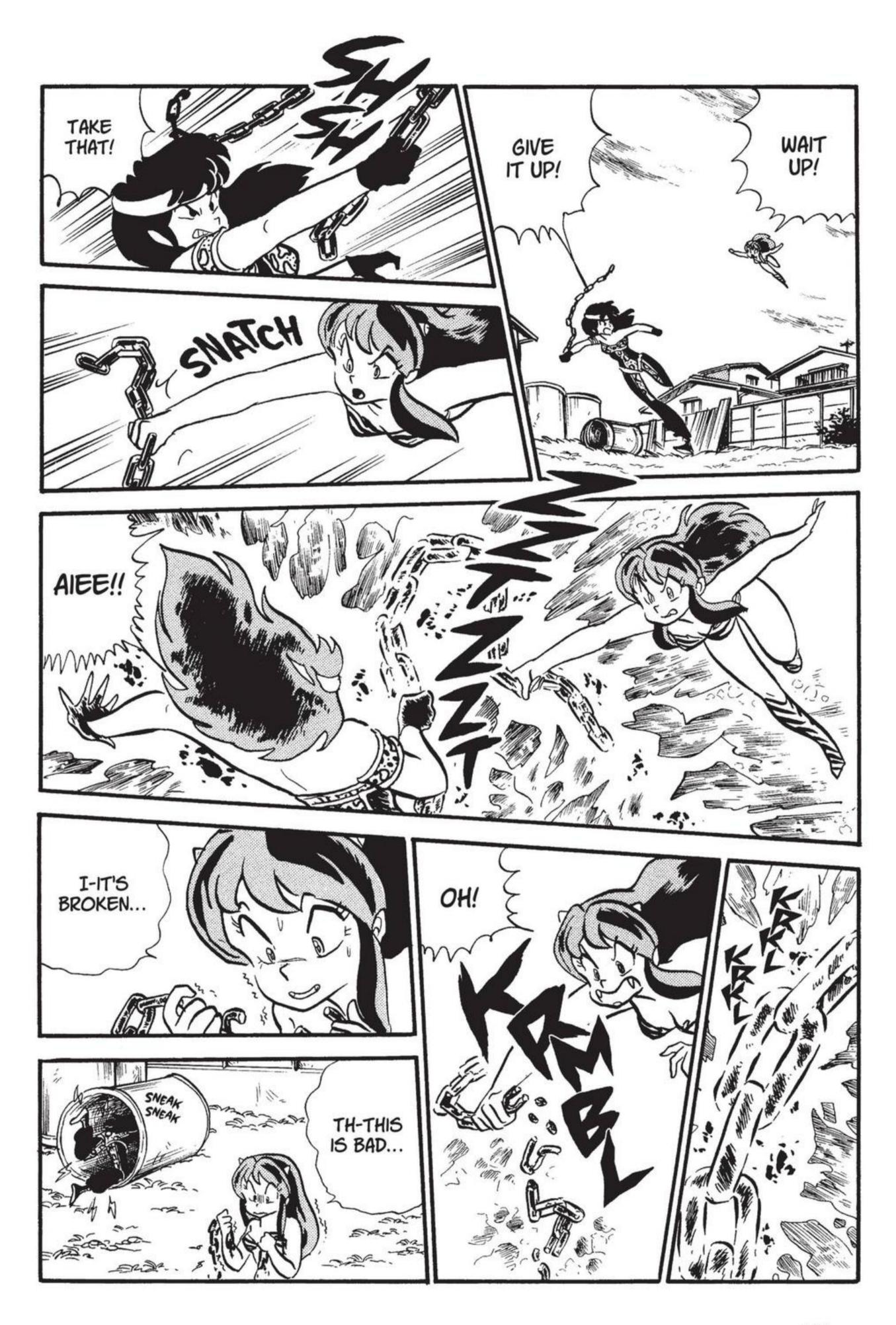


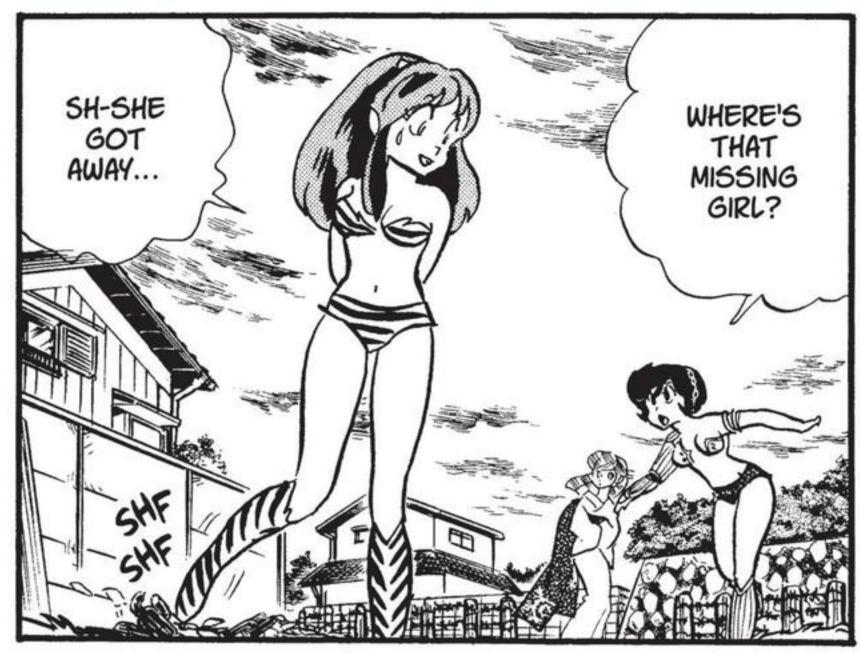




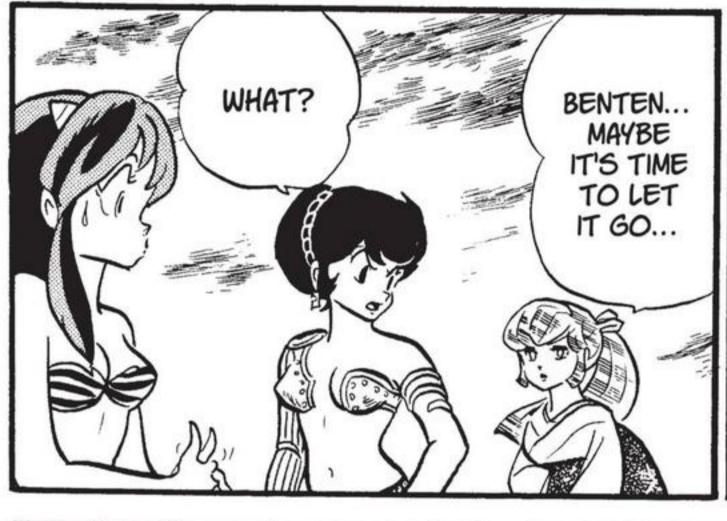










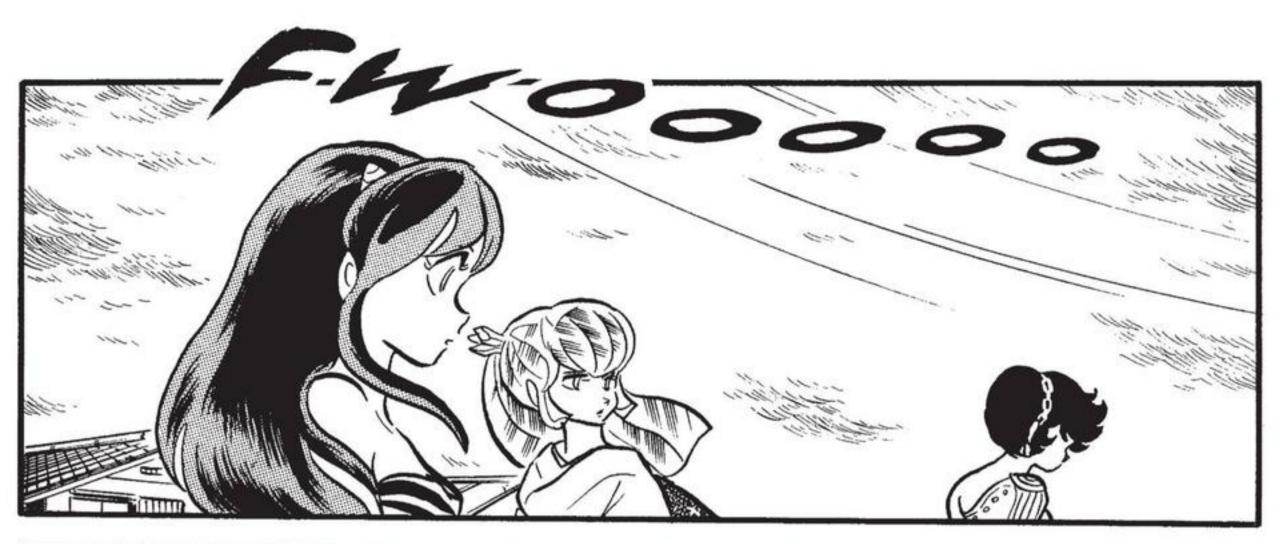










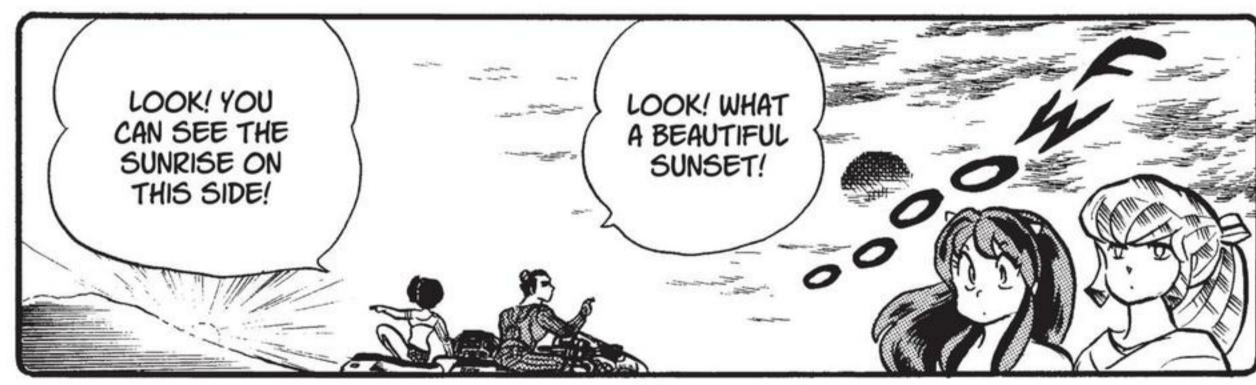






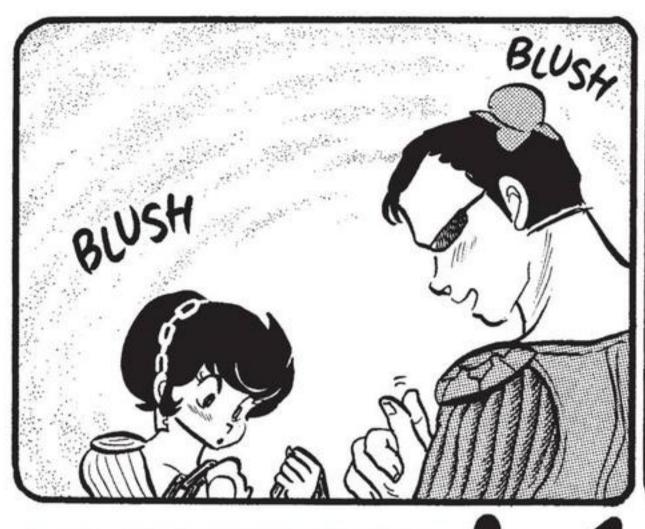










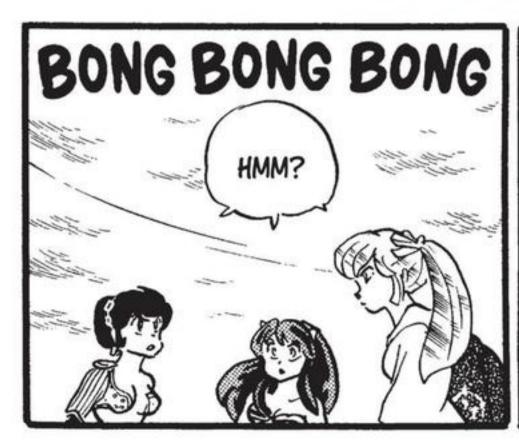




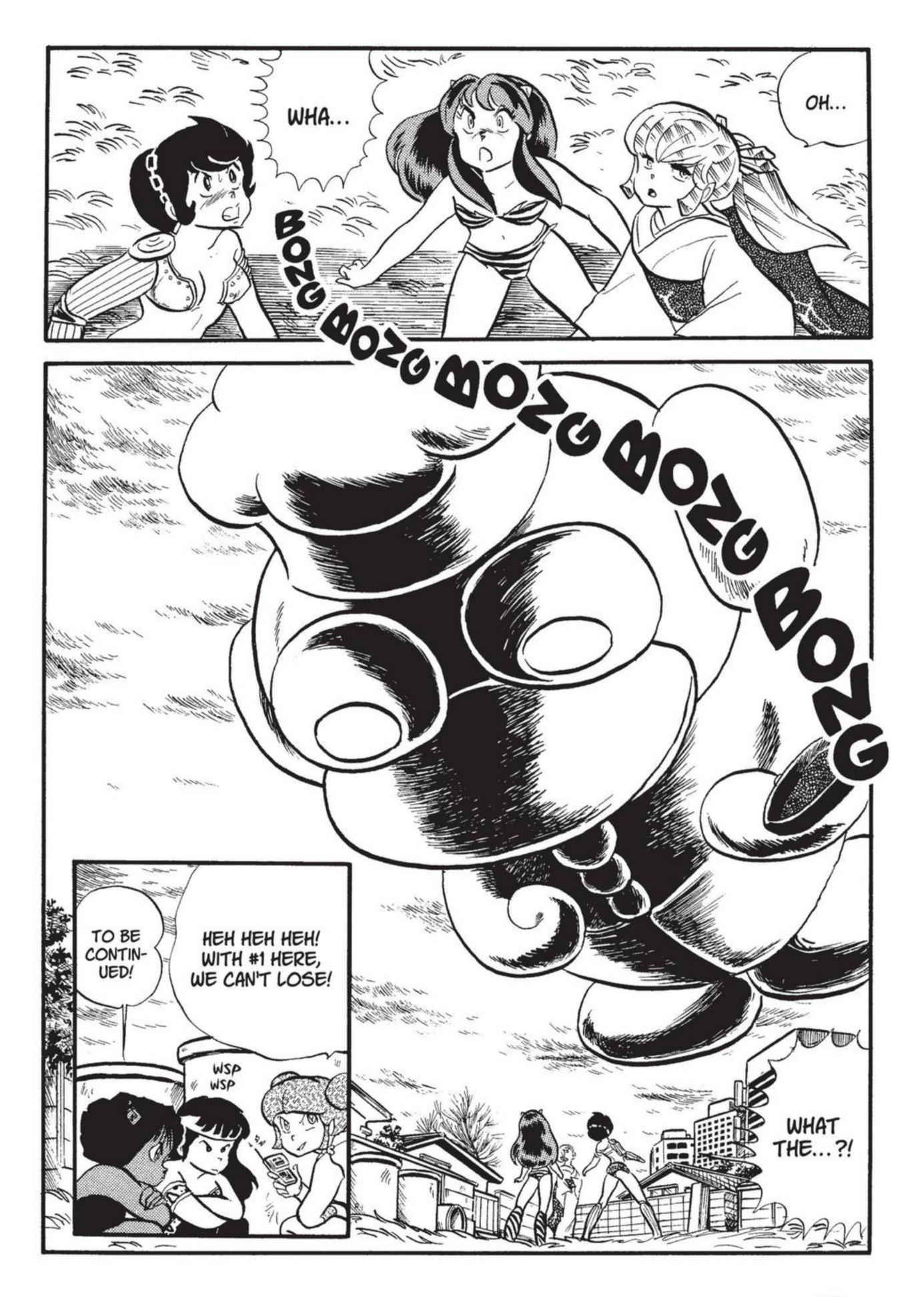












CHAPTER 118 RECOVERING THAT WAS LOST CONTROL C



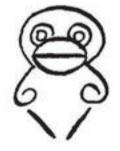
How to Draw Soruto # 1 in Easy Steps!











Draw a horizontal line

Is that a leaf?

It's not a leaf.
It's a frog!

It's not a frog.
It's a duck!

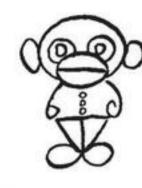
On 6/6 there was heavy rain



A triangle with a crack in it



Two little bread rolls



Three beans and two buns, please!



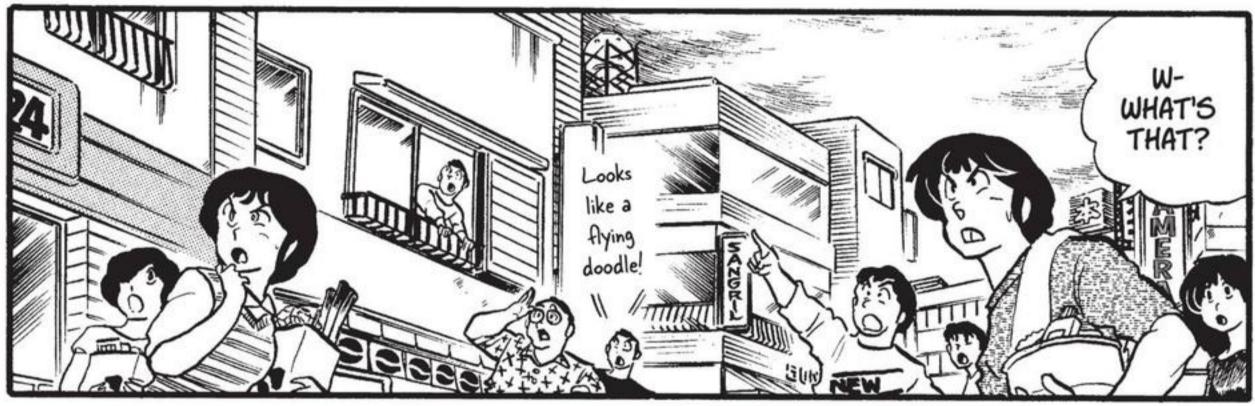
A cute chef

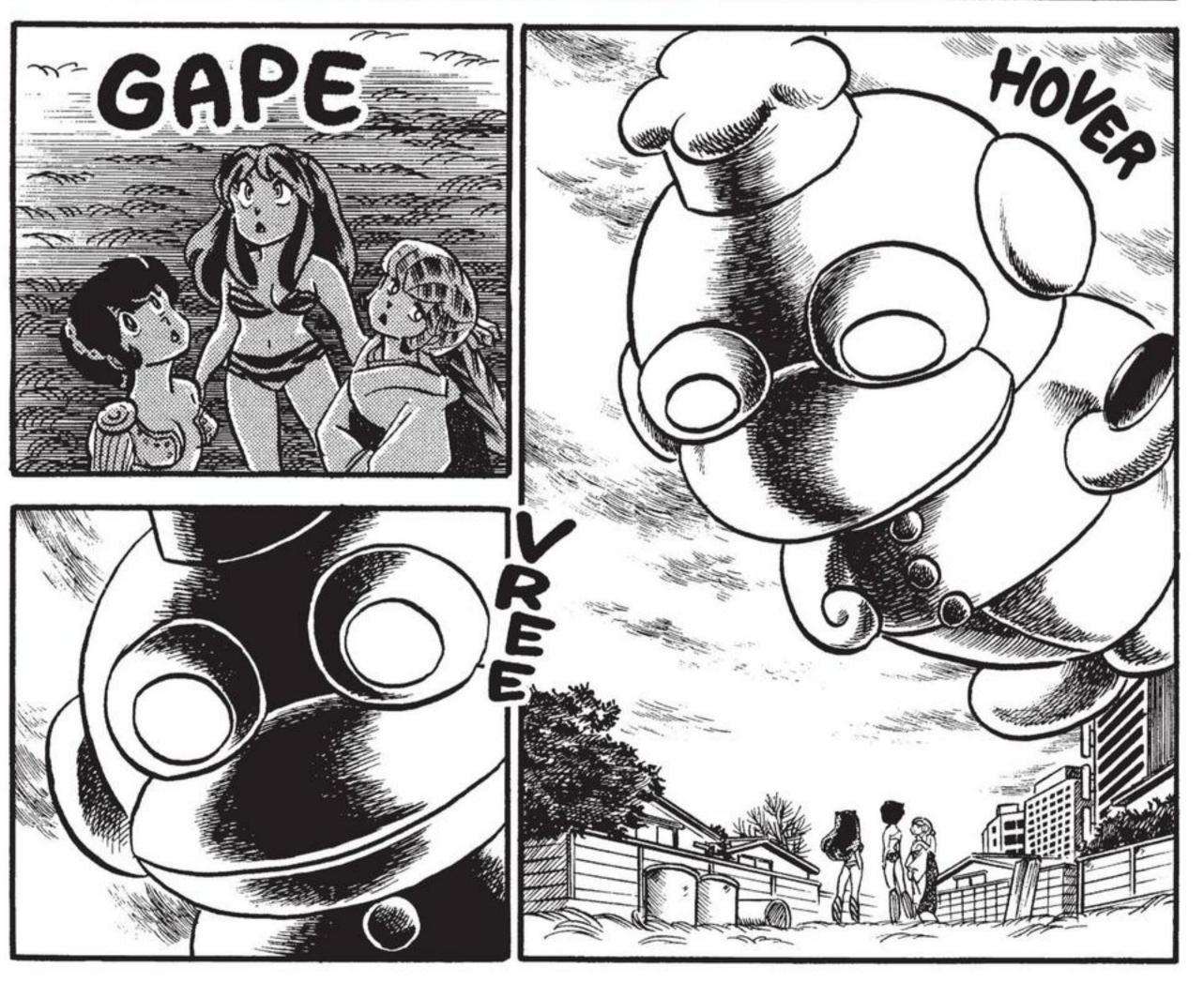
A cute chef, in nothing flat!

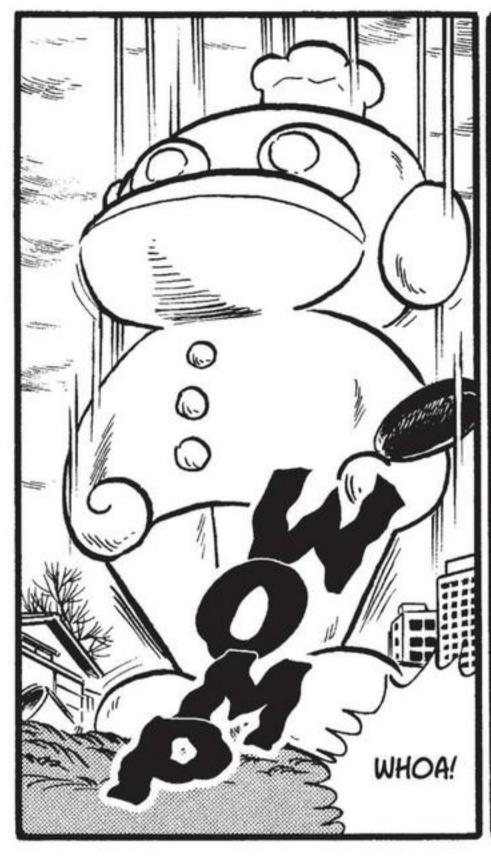


Thank you

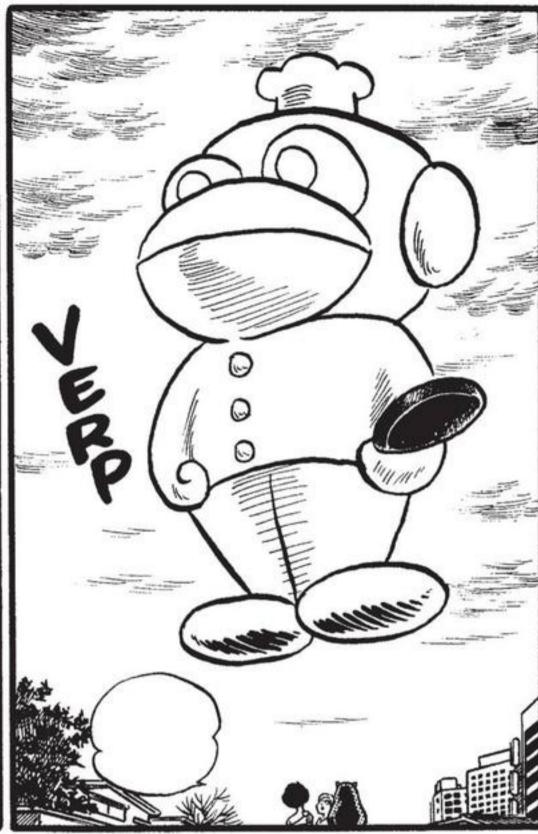


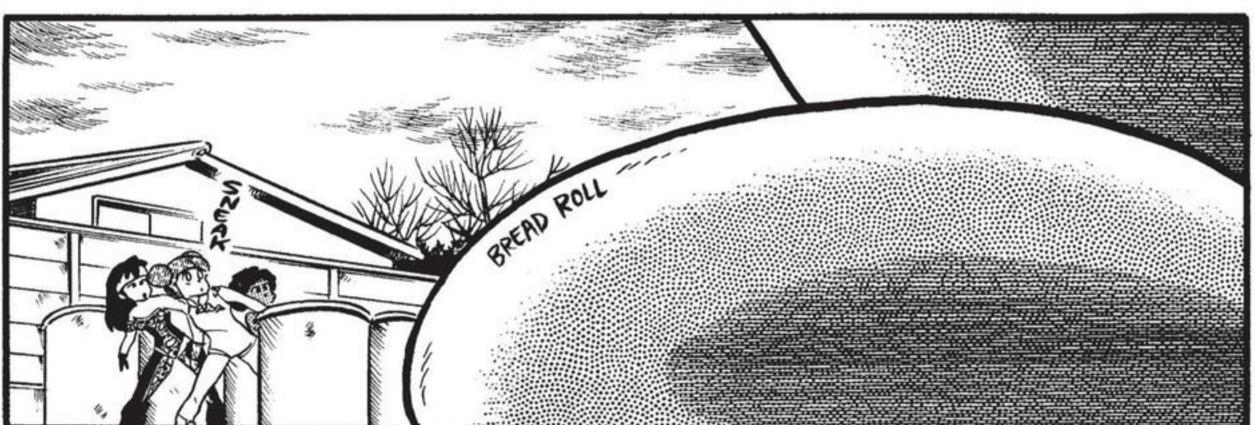


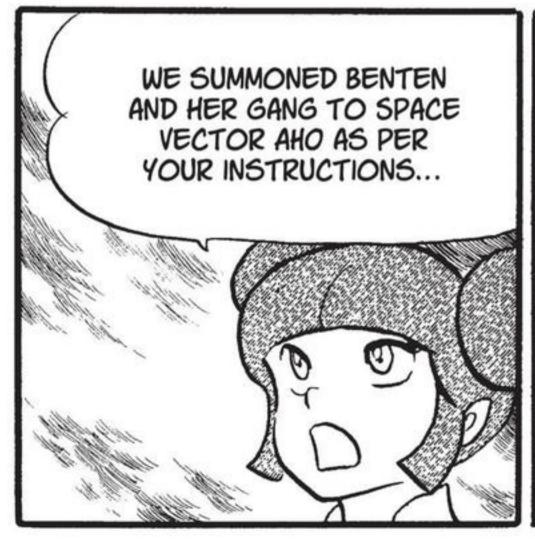


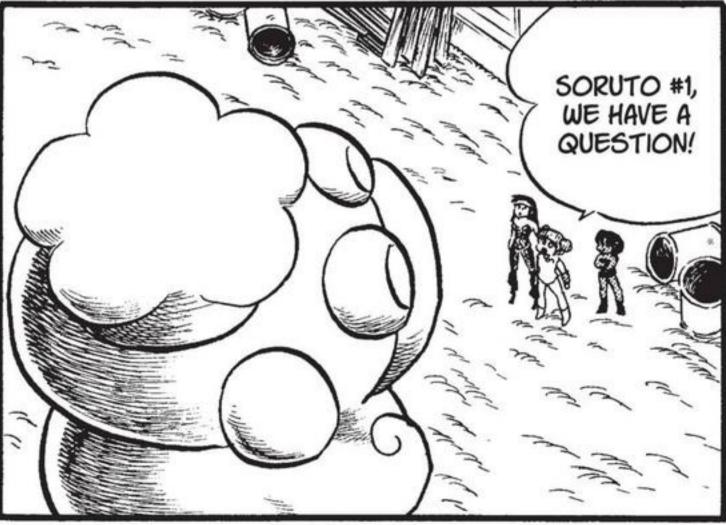




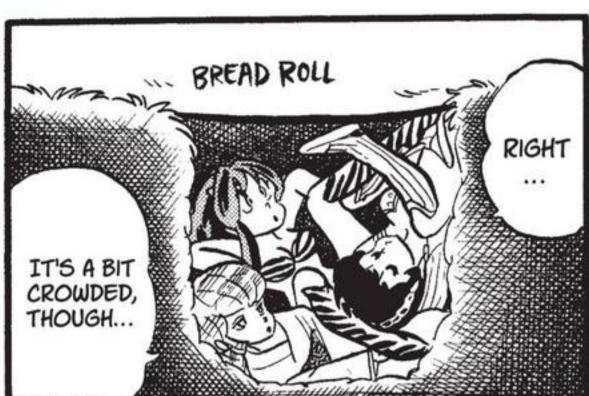




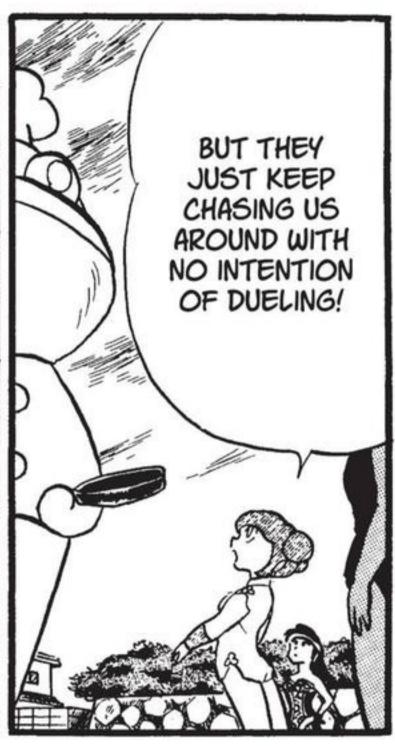
































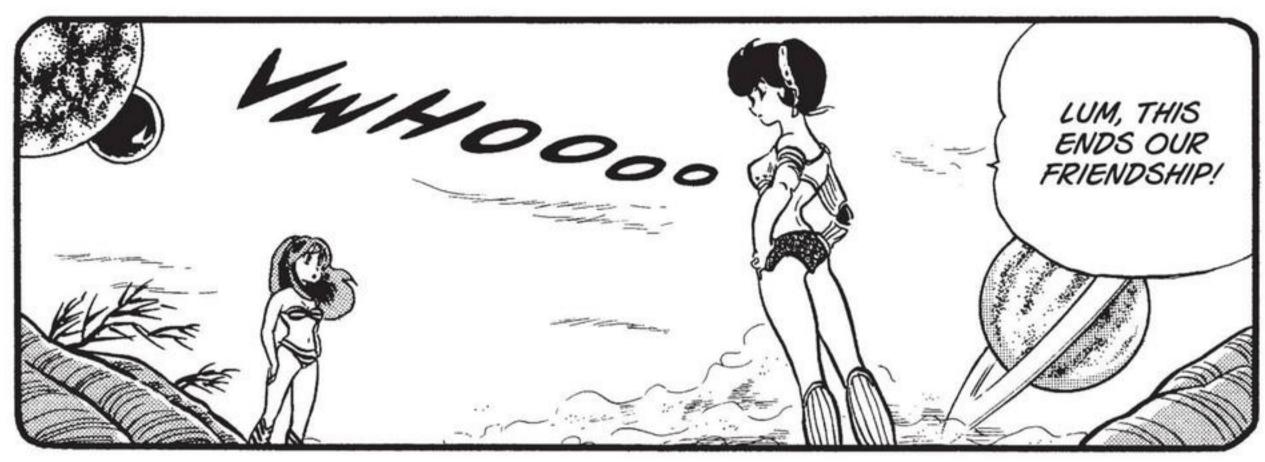








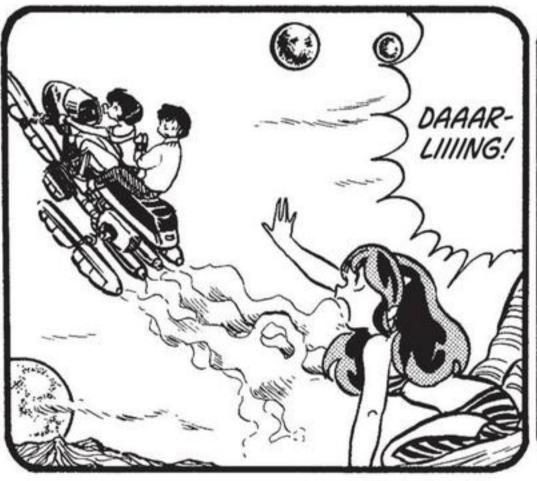








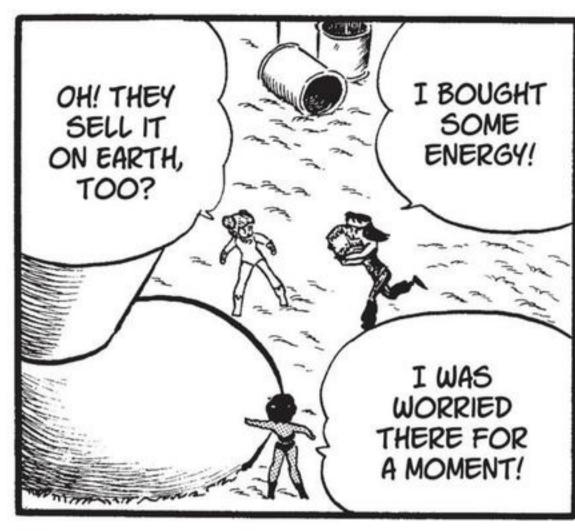








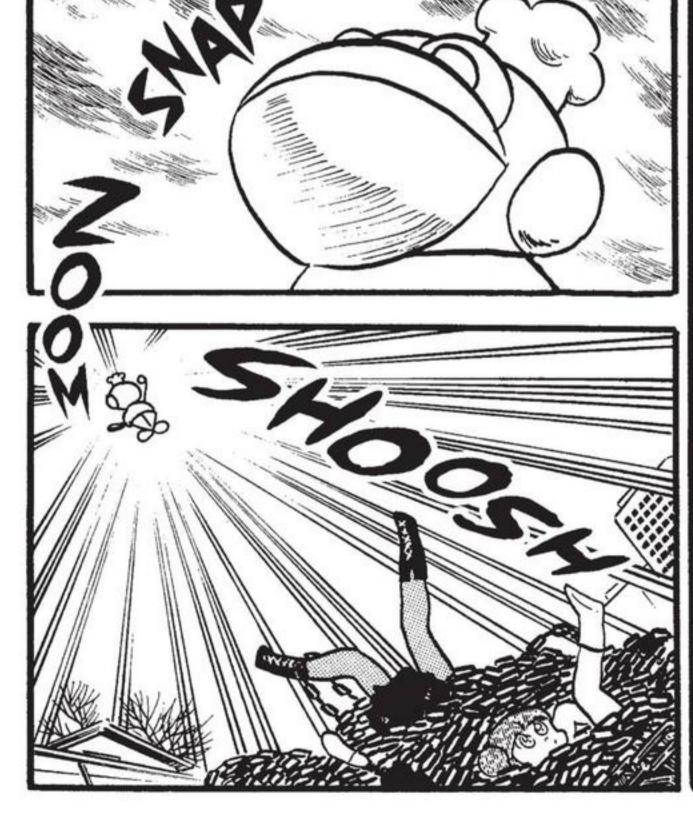




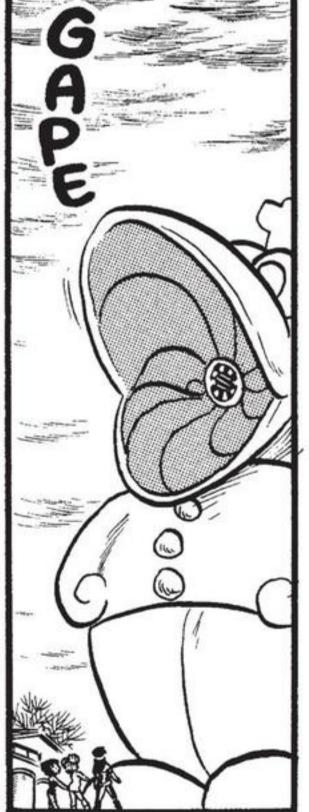


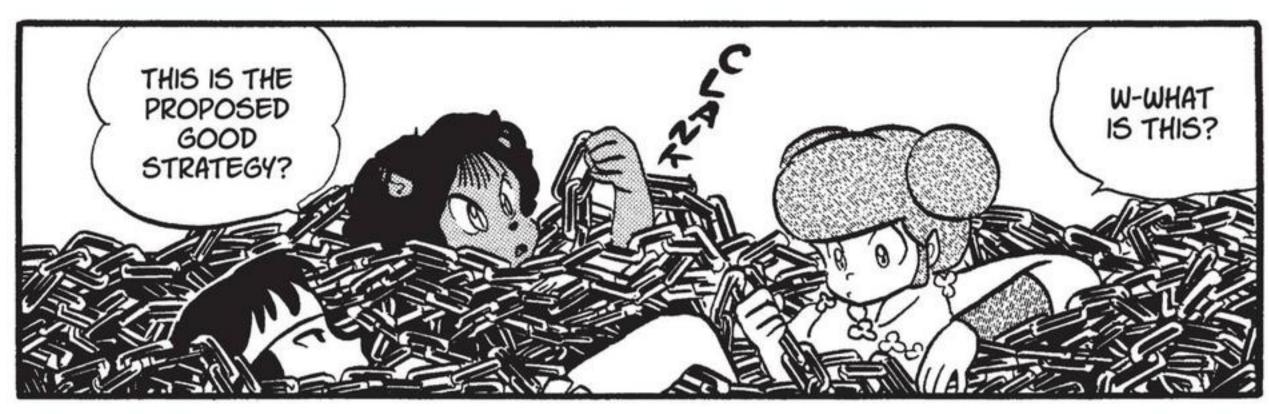










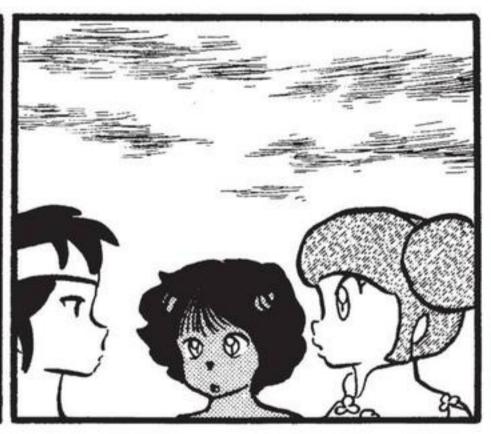










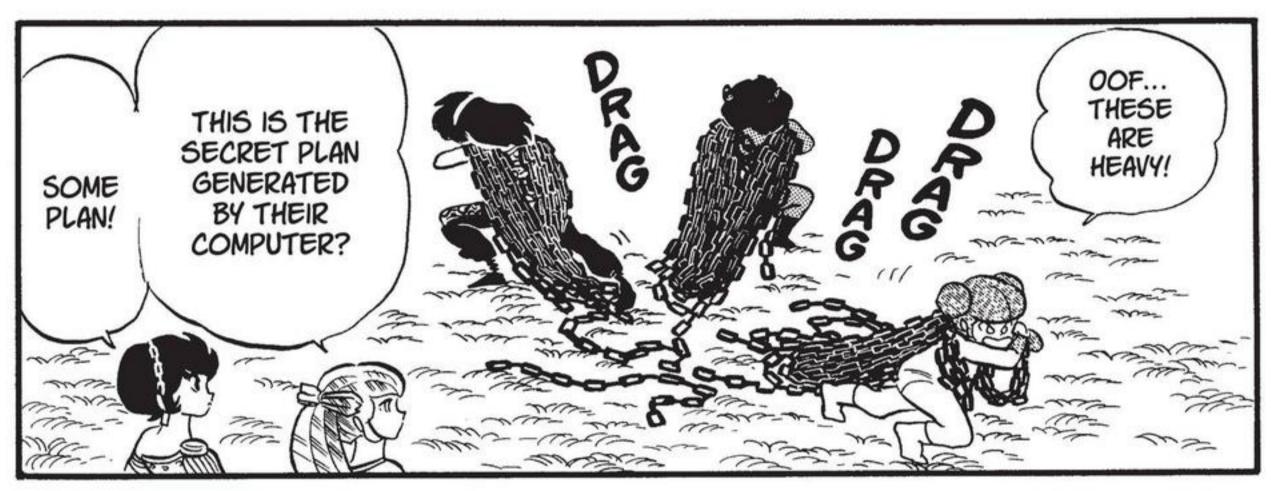












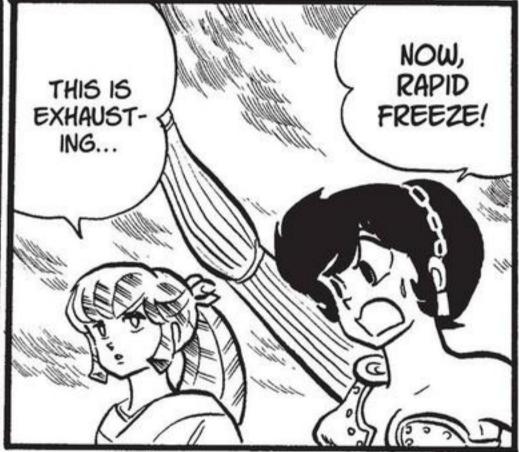


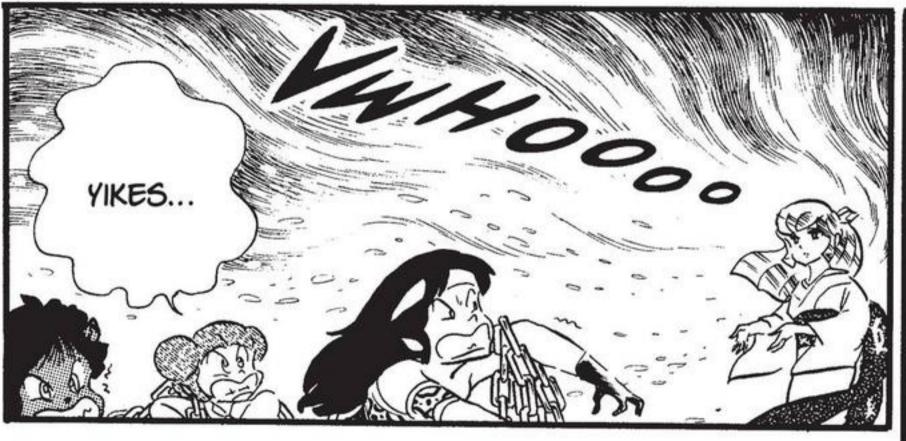


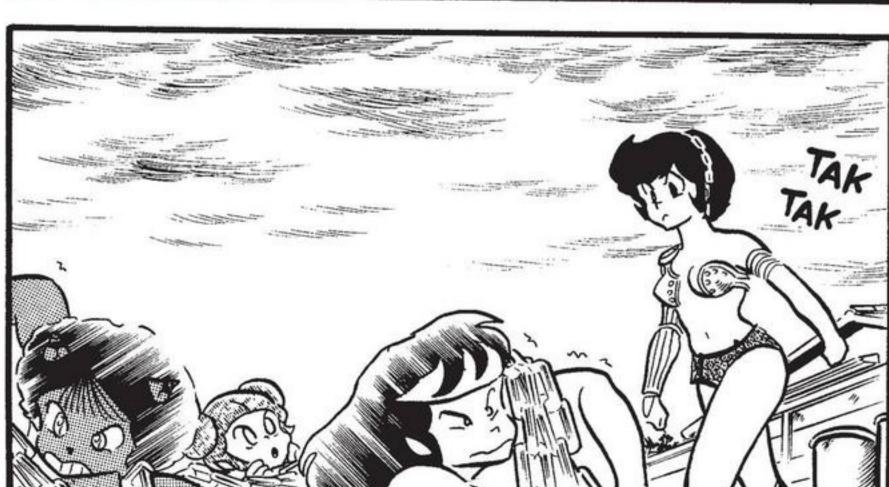






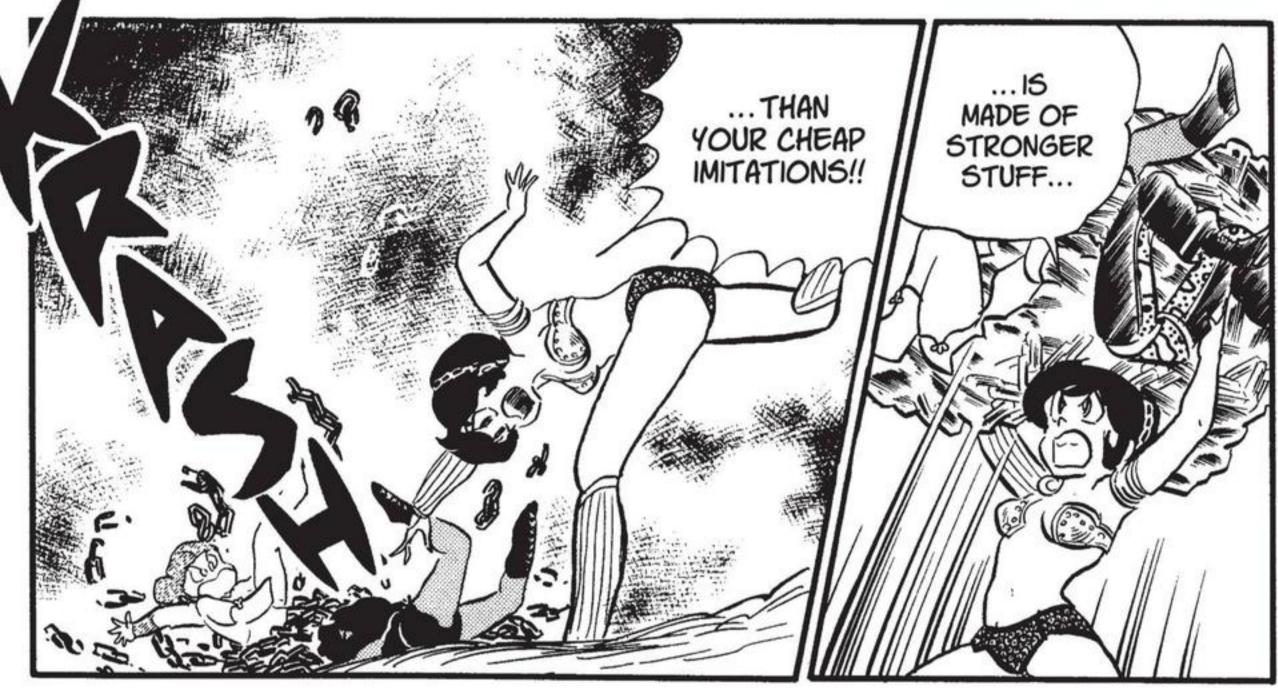










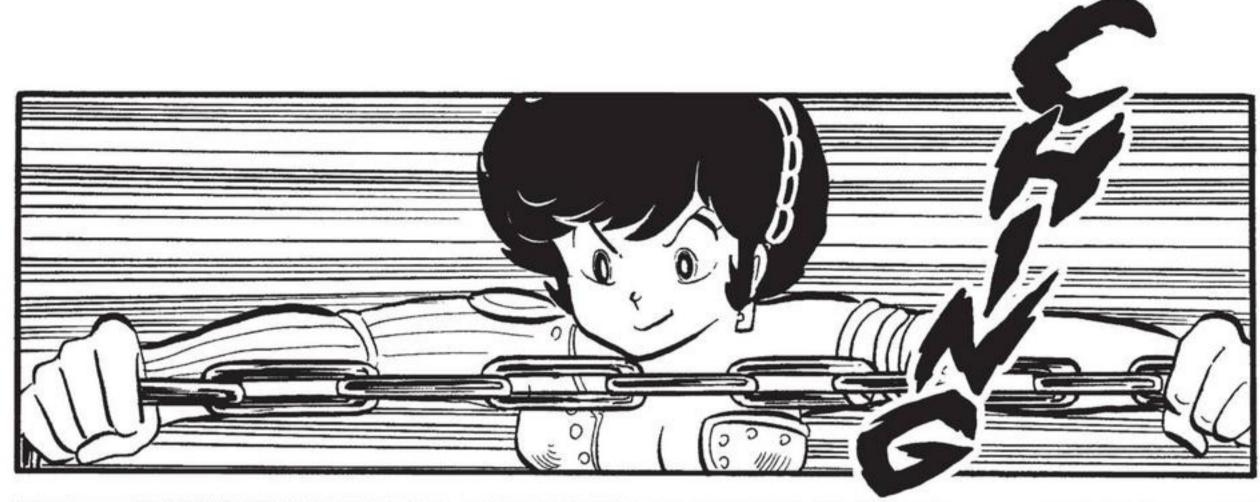


















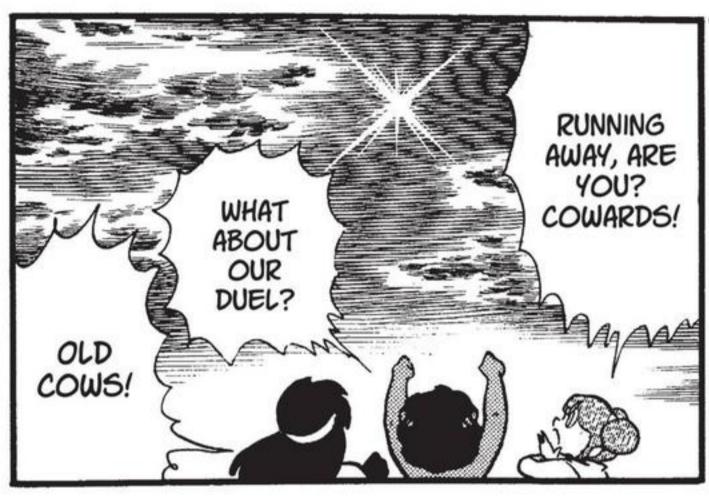






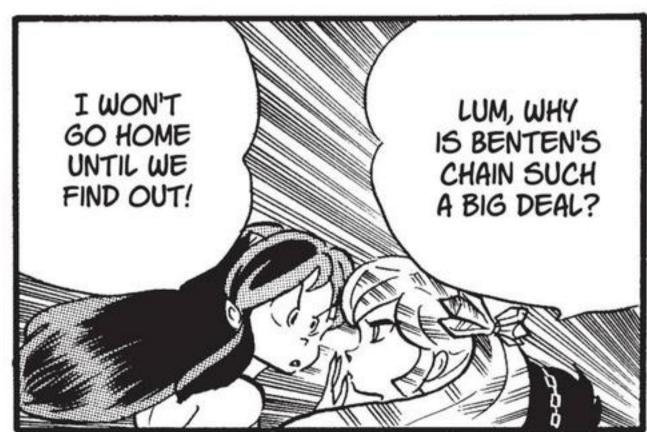






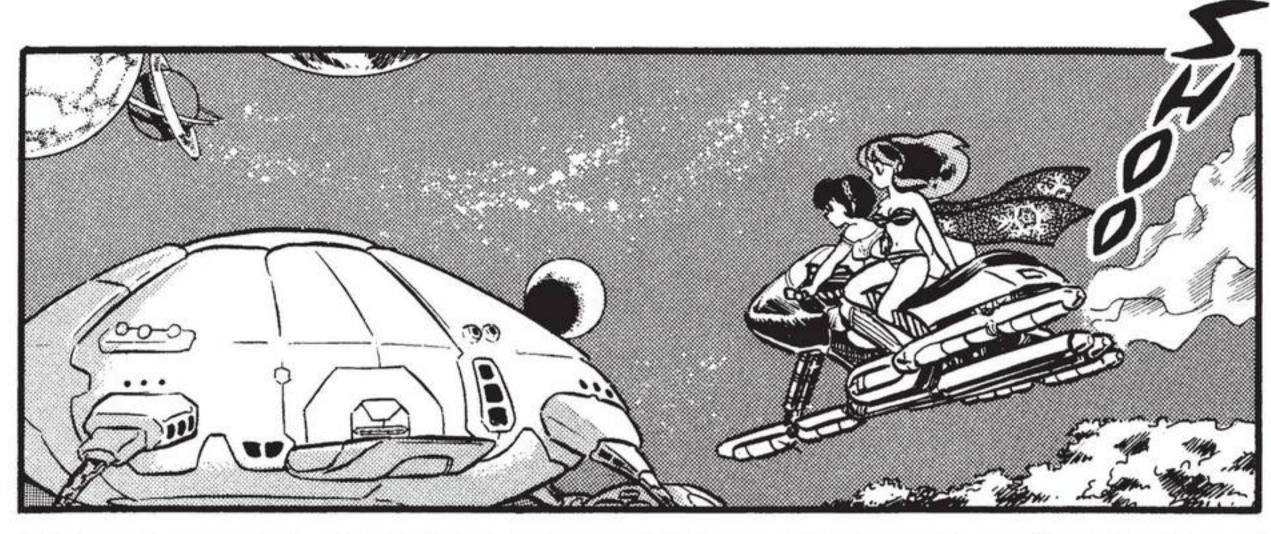


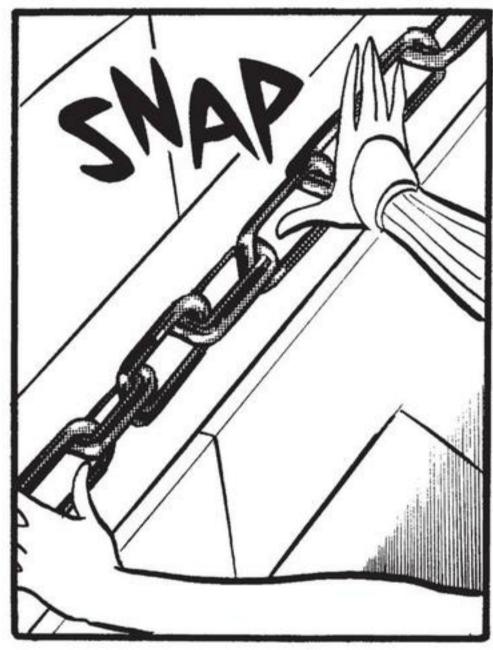
























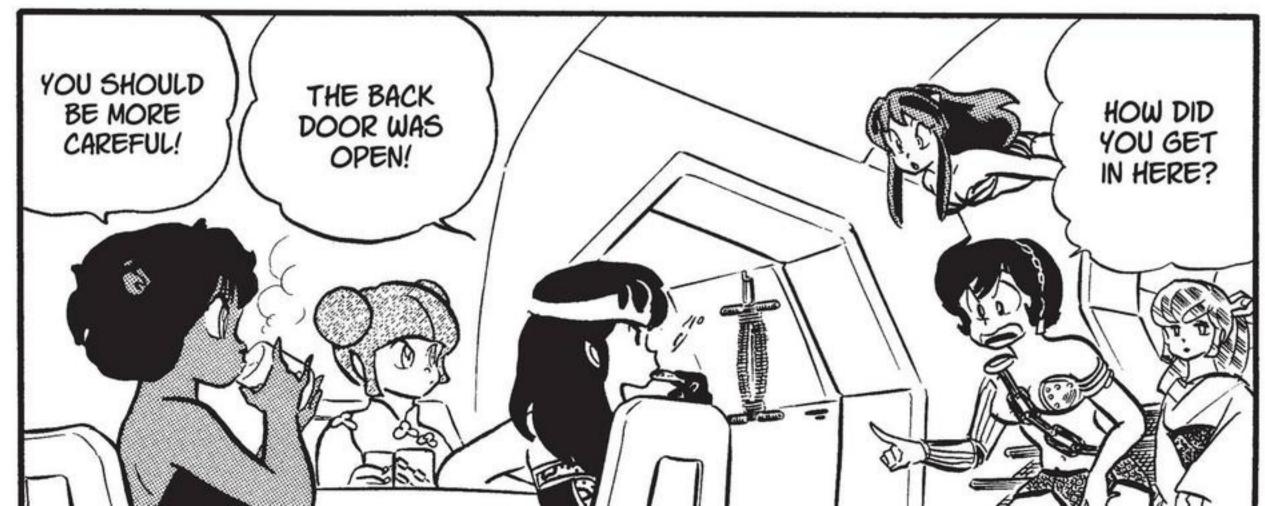




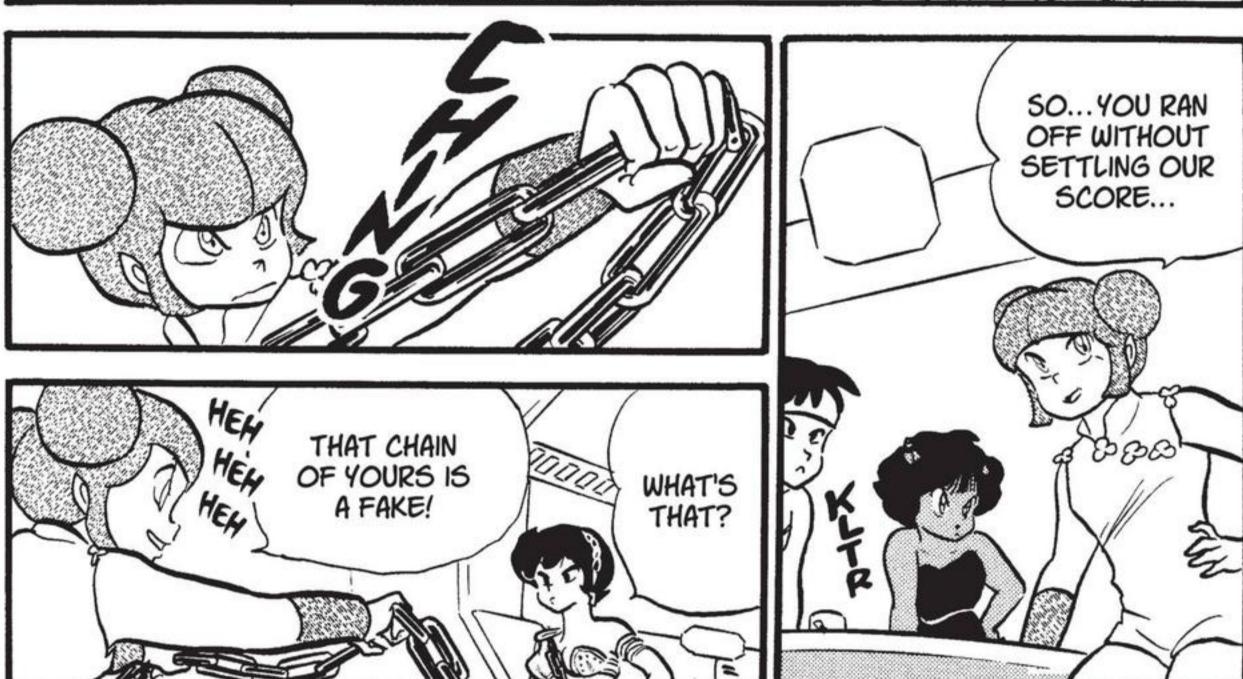


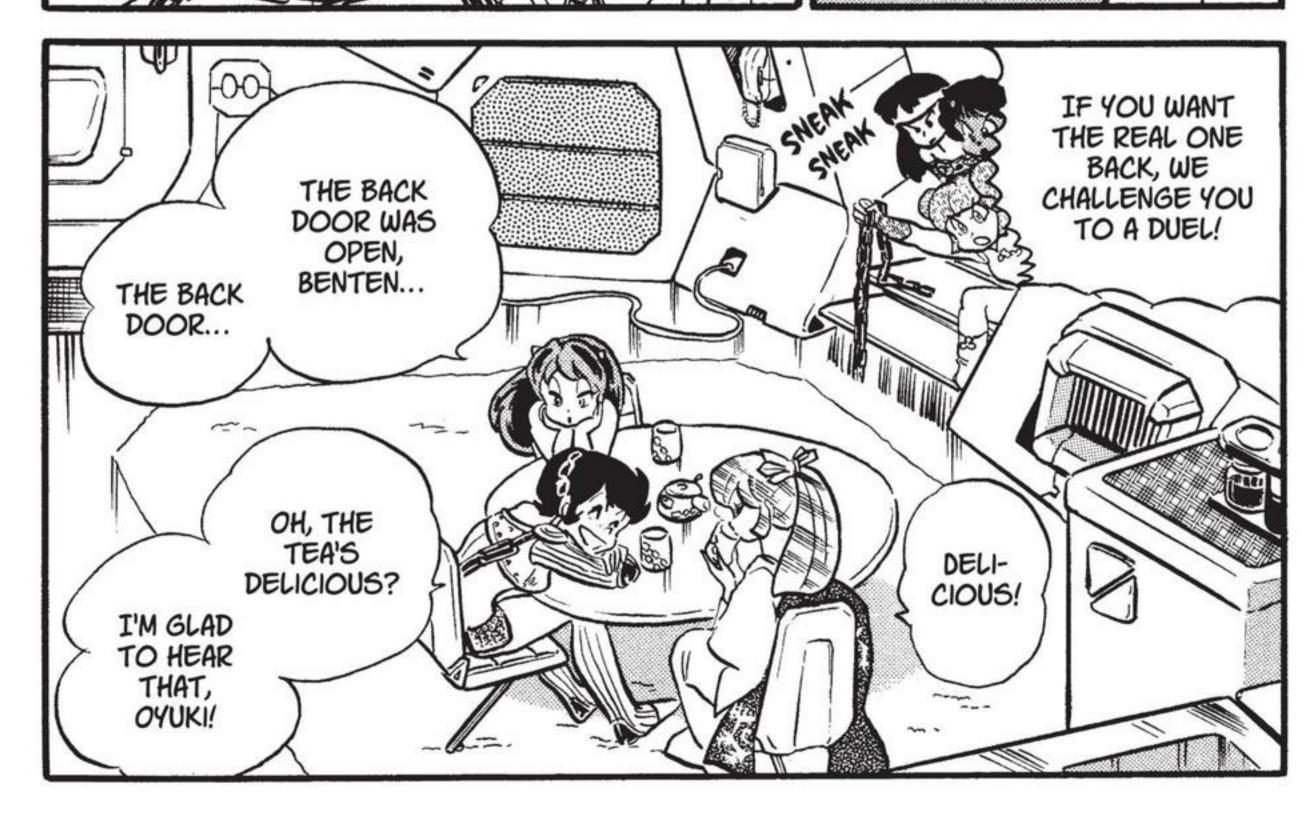












URUSEI YATSURA ★ DATA FILE 19



Flourishing Economy and Extreme Earnings!



Tomobiki Town's shopping district is brimming with vitality. It's always teeming with shoppers and none of the shops are closed up! How do they do it?

The prolonged economic downturn in recent years has led to the emergence of "shuttered streets," or shopping districts full of shops that have had to permanently close. In fact, shopping districts have been disappearing rapidly from regions all throughout Japan.

But Tomobiki Town's shopping district is a tough survivor, despite the challenging times. In this installment, we'll explore the secrets to its success!



The district is full of small-business owners who have close relationships to their customers (volume 2, Chapter 10 "Sake and Tears and Men and Women")



Why does the shopping district thrive? ②

They Collaborate to Attract Customers

Of course the Tomobiki Shopping District benefits from more than just the barriers against outside interference. They also make internal efforts to make the district more attractive.

The merchants work together to draw in customers, organizing various festivities that make the shopping street appealing to demographics beyond housewives, such when the merchants wore ogre costumes and marched through the streets for Setsubun (volume 4, chapter

9 "Bean-Shooter for Ogres") or night market during summer vacation (volume 10, chapter 6 "Oh, Night Shops!"). Of course the merchants also employ

traditional shopping district techniques such as a big year-end sale (volume 13, chapter 8 "Ringing in the New Year") and a drawing for prizes (volume 15, chapter 17 "Raging Dogfight") and these campaigns all draw sizable crowds.



■ Merchants work hard to create lively seasonal events! (volume 4, chapter 9 "Bean-Shooter for Ogres")



◀ It takes more than the right location to succeed!
(volume 6, chapter 14 "The Coffee Shop Ban")

STUDY 1

Why does the shopping district thrive? ①

Giant Supermarkets are Unwelcome

Tomobiki Town's shopping district shows every indication of a thriving economy, and a glimpse into the shops will tell you why. When Ataru's mom requests three salmon fillets at the fish shop, the shopkeeper shouts "Coming right up!" and retrieves the fish right from the glass case. Behind them, a line of housewives waits their turn (volume 2, chapter 10 "Sake and Tears and Men and Women").

But while customers are plentiful, there are no signs of the sort of major supermarket that carries every kind of necessity, from food to clothing. Doubtless the Tomobiki Merchant Association has prevented any such store from being built. Moreover, outside businesses encounter a lot of trouble and have difficulty getting established when they try to enter the Tomobiki Town market.

For example, when a new coffee shop opened Ataru and his fellow students began skipping school to hang out there. The coffee shop quickly became site of an all-out war between the truant students and their teachers, and it was soon driven out of business (volume 6, chapter 14 "The Coffee Shop Ban).

Their loss was the tragic result of their ignorance of a terrifying reality of Tomobiki Town—the perils of being smack-dab in the middle of the magnetic field of Ataru's terrible luck. Merchants who lack the requisite resilience face high hurdles!



▲ Tomobiki High is an important customer base of the shopping district (volume 10, chapter 6 "Oh, Night Shops!")

STUDY 3

Why does the shopping district thrive? 3

Loyal Institutional Customers

We've all seen shops where customers hardly seem to enter, the products are dusty on the shelves, the shutters are always half-down and the prices are higher than at the big box stores...but for some reason, they never go out of business.

These shops always have some kind of invisible revenue-stream outside of their standard retail operations—for example, bulk sales to a school or local government office. The Tomobiki Shopping District is no exception. It has deep ties to an important institutional customer: Tomobiki High School. Yes, the school itself, not just its students, is an important customer of the shopping district.

The shops don't just carry school supplies such as stationery or indoor shoes—during the Miss Tomobiki Contest, the Merchant's Association also supplied Ataru with sponsorships and even boldly conducted sales on the school campus (volume 9, chapter 18 "Miss Tomobiki

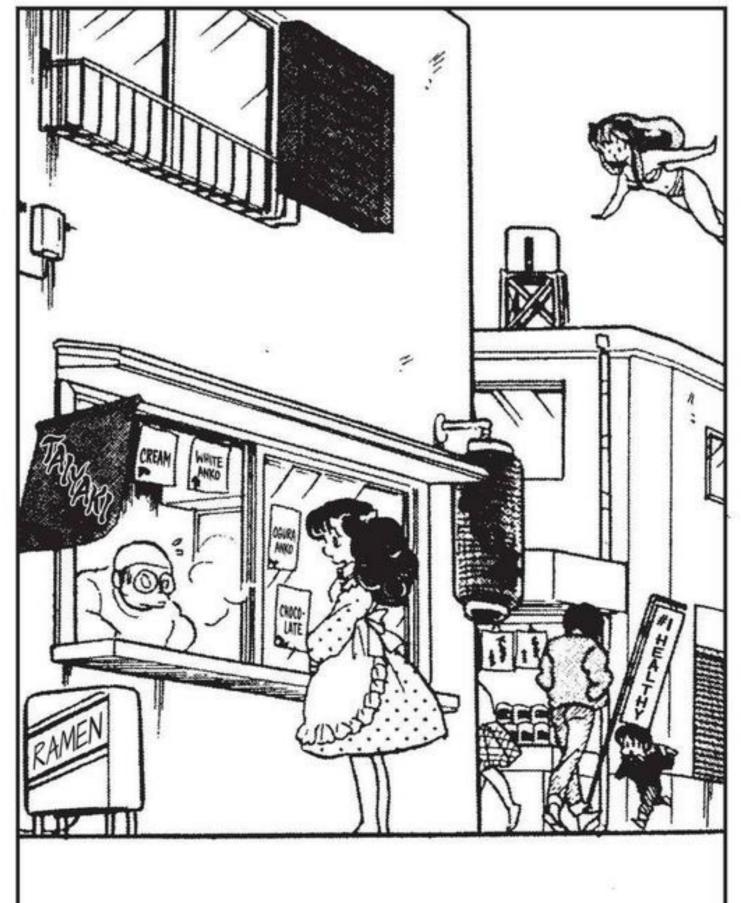
Contest: Preliminary Round").
Moreover, disasters befall
Tomobiki High on such a regular
basis that suppliers of window
glass and construction materials
are bound to profit.

Thus the members of the Tomobiki Merchant's Association have been able to protect their interests by creating a local economic zone centered on the high school and its students. This group is truly just as tough—and perhaps tougher—than the high school and the residents of town itself. They don't disappoint!



▲ Tomobiki's Shopping District resists economic downturns with its superpowers! (volume 6, chapter 4 "The Great Off-Campus Snack Battle")





▲ Ran loads up on 50 taiyaki (volume 9, chapter 3 "Anko Pathos, the Taste of Love?!")

It's also worth noting that the Tomobiki Shopping District is easy on the wallet, with affordable prices befitting its old town location.

Ran always goes on dates with Rei somewhere far from Earth, but she makes a point of going to the Tomobiki Shopping District to buy the vast quantities of taiyaki she plies him with (volume 9, chapter 3 "Anko Pathos, the Taste of Love?!"). We can assume that the crows who serve Kurama also come all the way to Tomobiki to buy rice because it's cheap there (volume 10, chapter 18 "Lover Thief, Part 2").

The Tomobiki Merchants
Association is proactive in making the shopping district attractive, not just to housewives and students, but to fringe consumer demographics such as aliens!

Cherry Shows Up One in Three Times!

Summer is all about taking it easy. In this installment, we investigate vacation activities.

Ataru goes to a vacation destination 22 times. Of these, the majority are to the beach, for a total of 16 vacations. The ocean is the most obvious summer destination, and Ataru seems to have fairly stereotypical taste.

Ulusei Taisula. 300 Siulles III A

Anyway

We counted them up!

Summer vacations on beaches and mountains!

But while the setting is trite, the incidents that occur at the shore are the kind of bizarre phenomena that can only happen in Tomobiki Town. First, the fact that Cherry shows up eight out of 22 times is already unusual. The fact that Ataru is always running across Sakura and Tsubame on a romantic rendezvous is downright inexplicable.

The Inns Are Always Spooky!

One would expect a woman like Sakura to never visit the same beach twice after encountering Ataru there the first time. We can only deduce that Ataru actively anticipates the beaches Sakura is likely to choose.

Generally, there is a pattern of Ataru encountering either a spook or a ghost on vacation, for a total of 11 out of 22 times. Whether in Tomobiki Town or at a resort, misfortune seems to find Ataru wherever he goes.



▲ Spying on a girls' high school swimming class (volume 7, chapter 22 "Keep Our Beaches Clean")

Mendo doesn't just love the ocean, he even goes so far as to build himself a pool with water from the Japan Sea. (volume 11, chapter 22 "Ten's Son")

Number of times Ataru goes to a vacation destination......22 times

Beach (16 times), pool (3 times), mountain (twice), highland (once)

Number of times Cherry just happens to be there......8 times

Number of times Sakura just happens to be there......7 times (of these, she's on a date with Tsubame 4 times)

Number of times Ataru encounters a spook or ghost.....11 times

Author: Kyoko Sugimori Concept: Masatake Sugimori





Urusei Yatsura

Part 20



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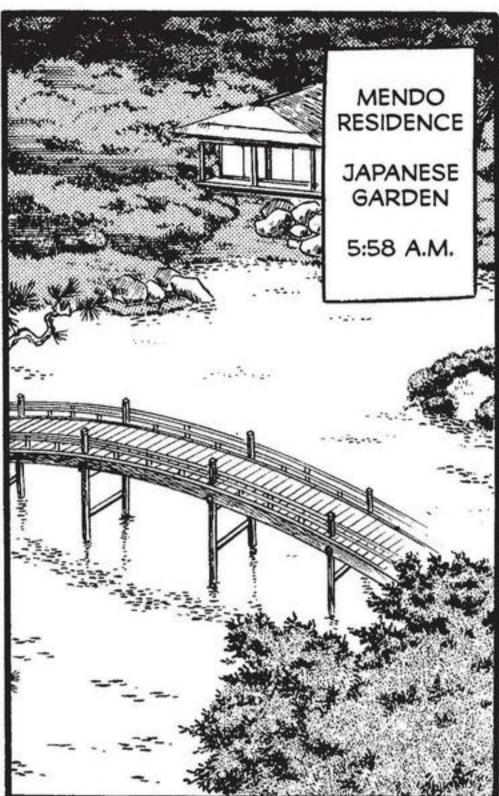
CHAPTER 12: LOVE LETTER TROUBLE

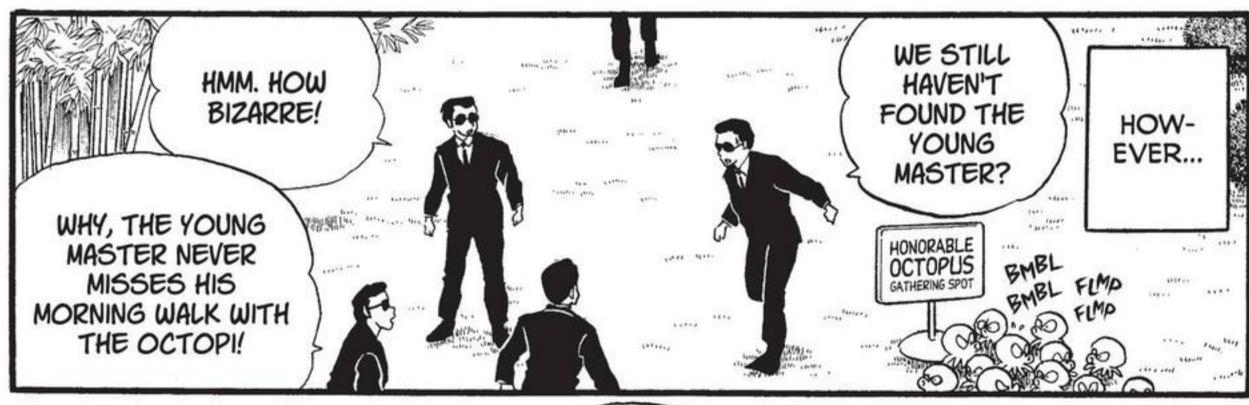
















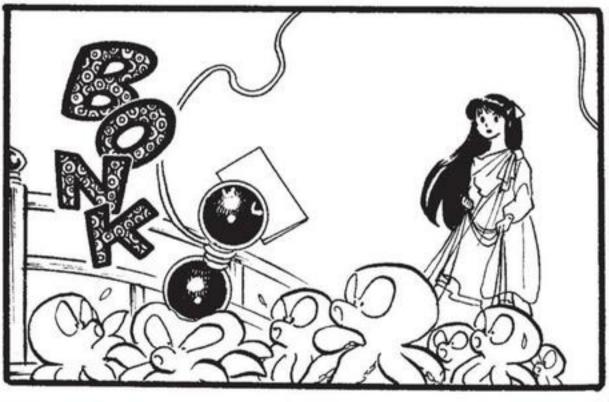






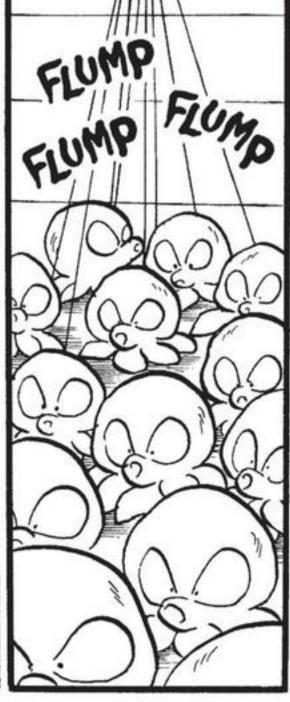








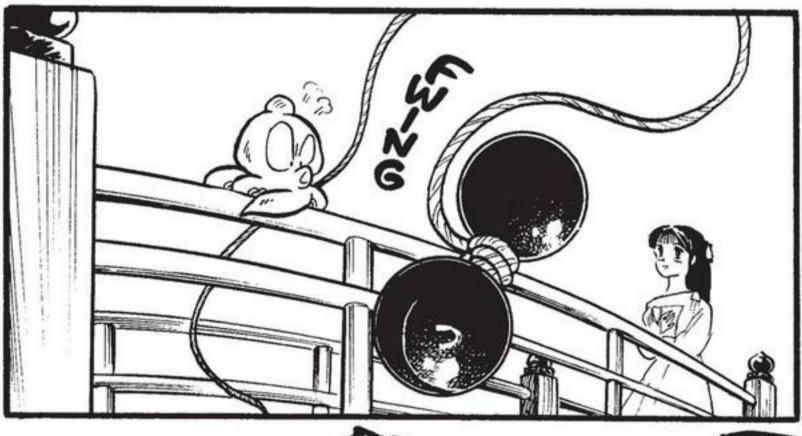


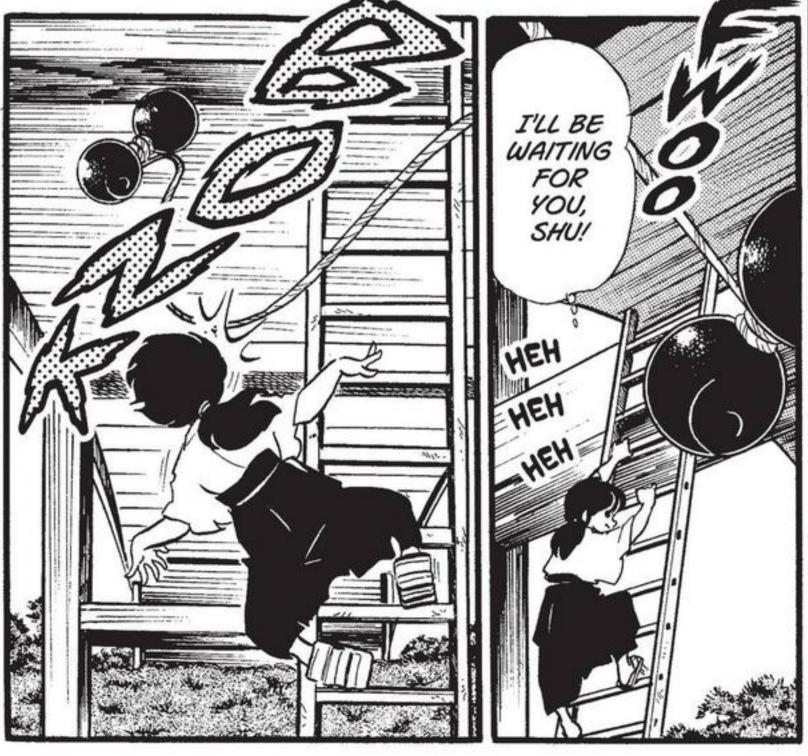










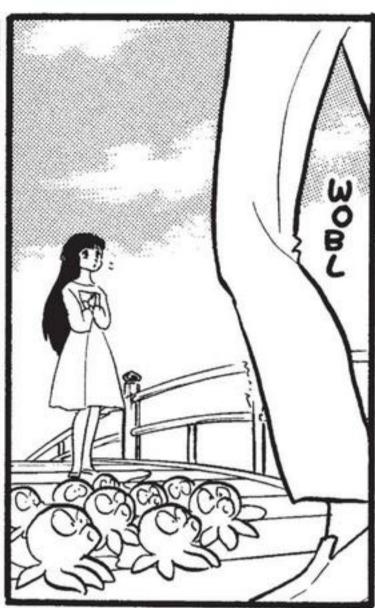


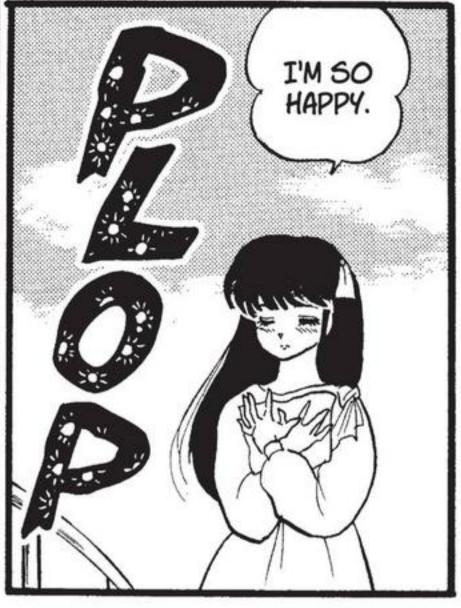


FROM MASTER TOBI-MARO...

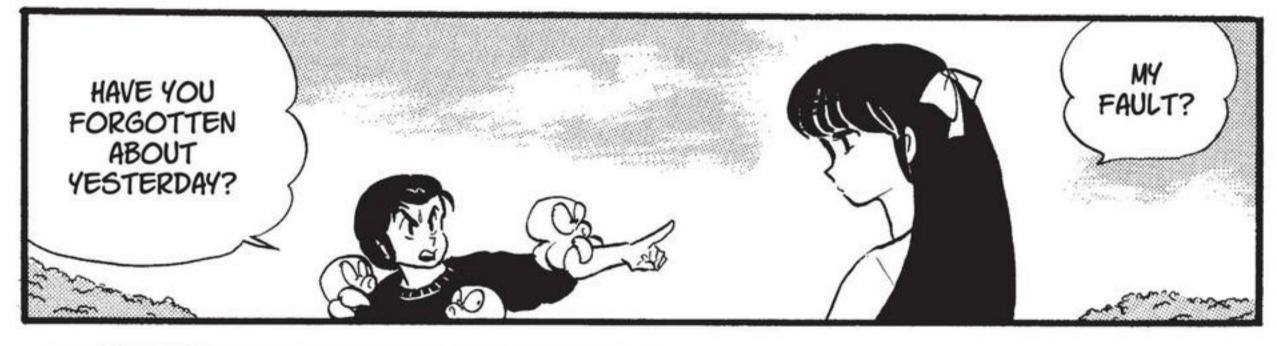
















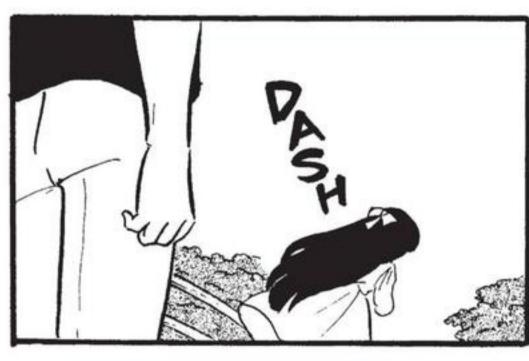




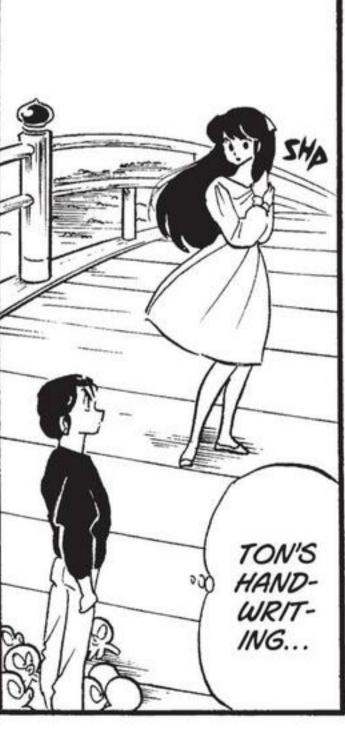
















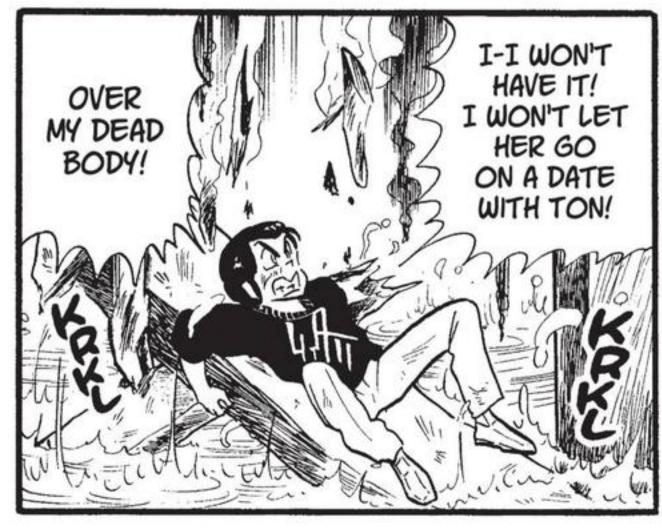


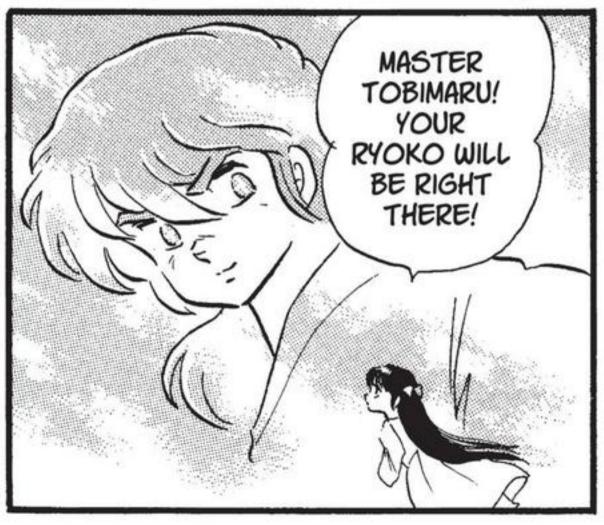


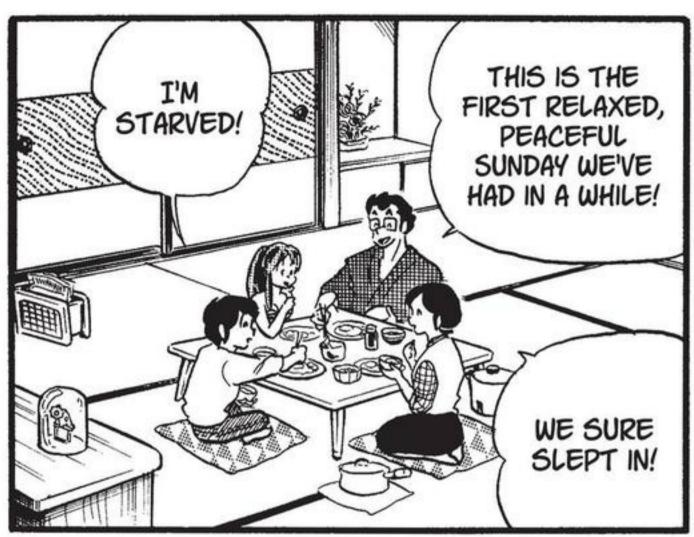


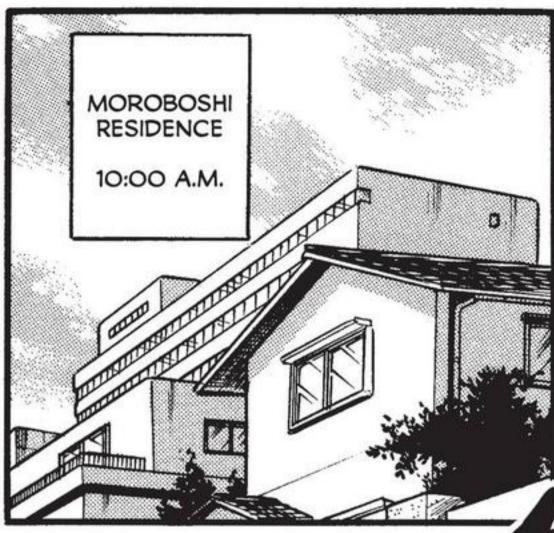
















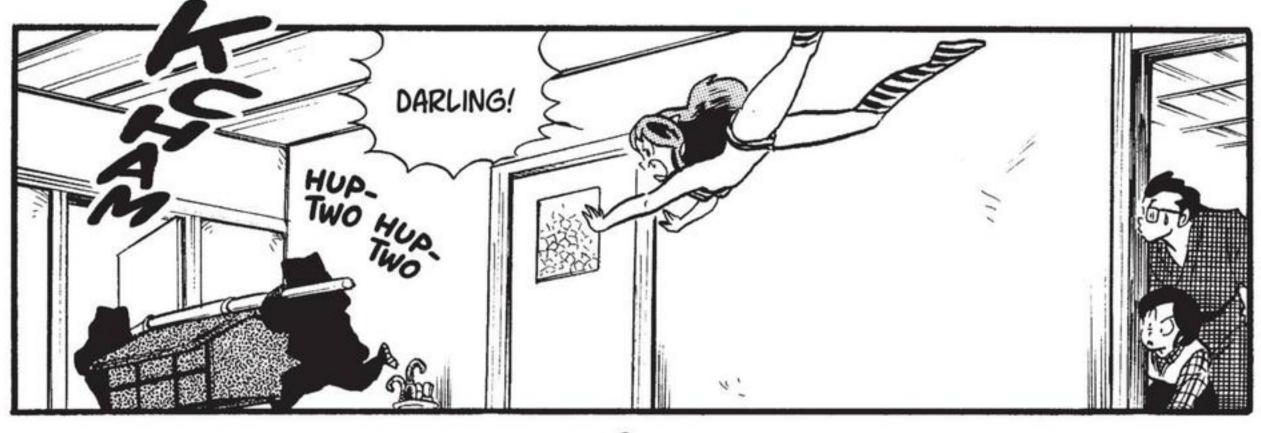




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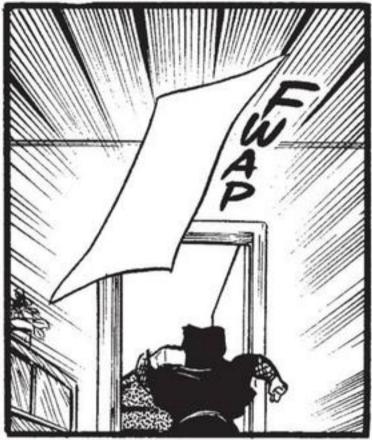


WHAT'S





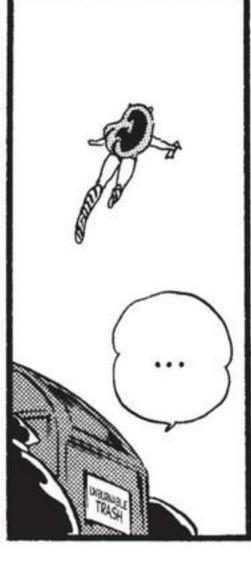






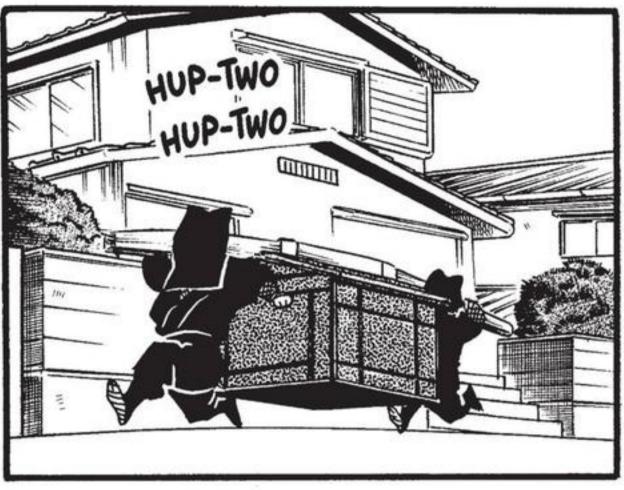






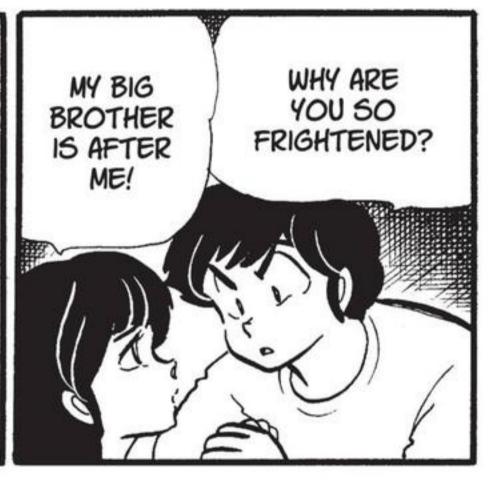






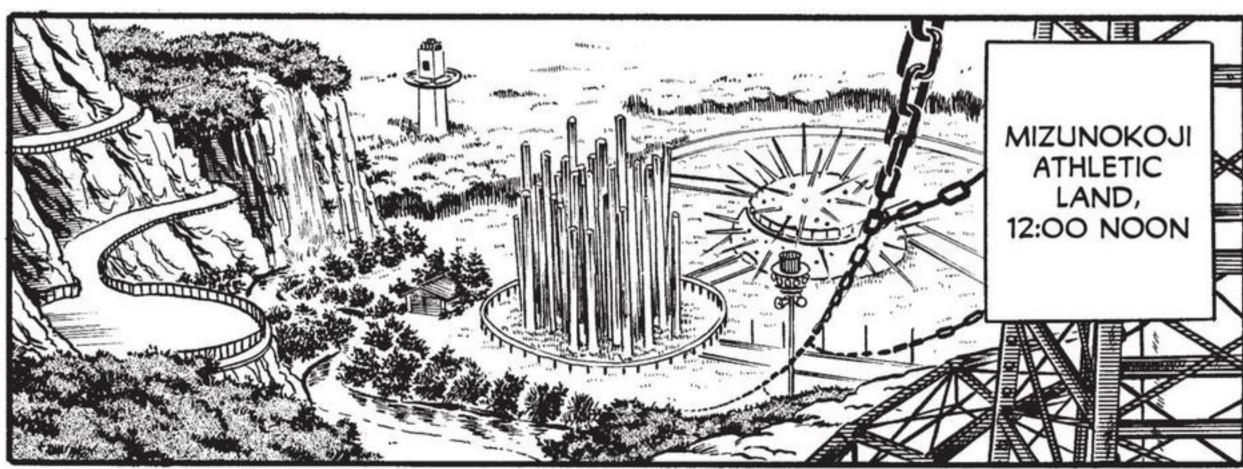




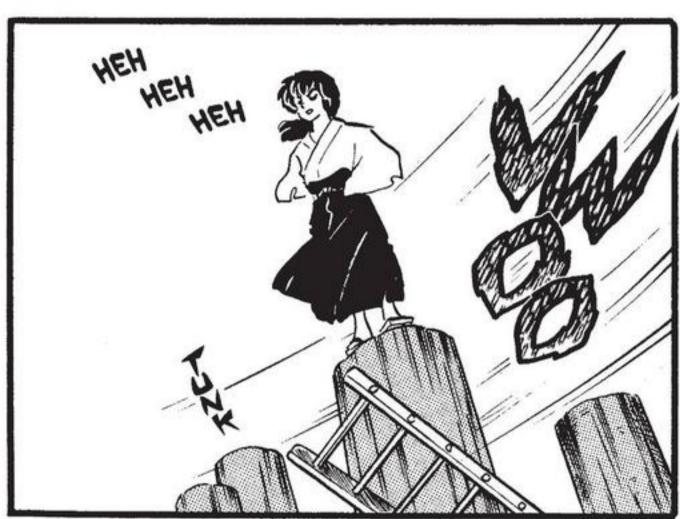












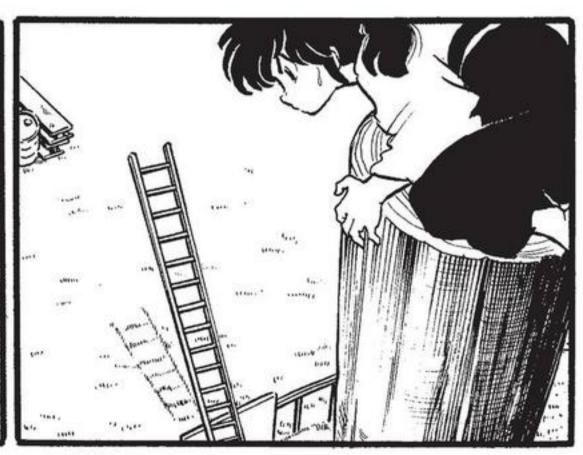














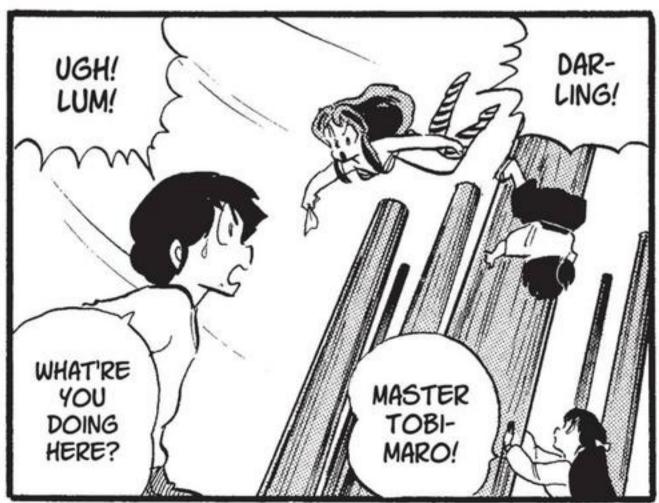






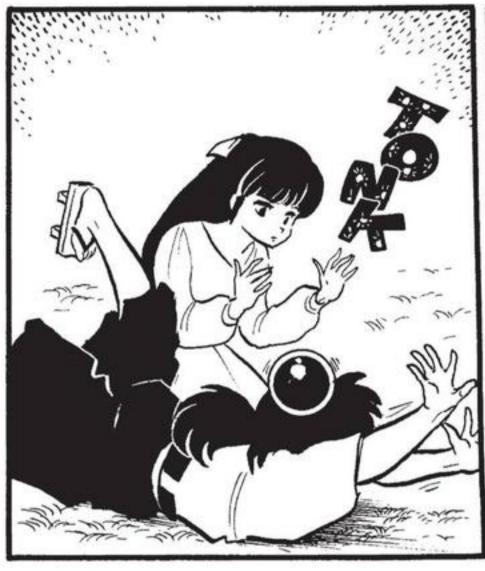






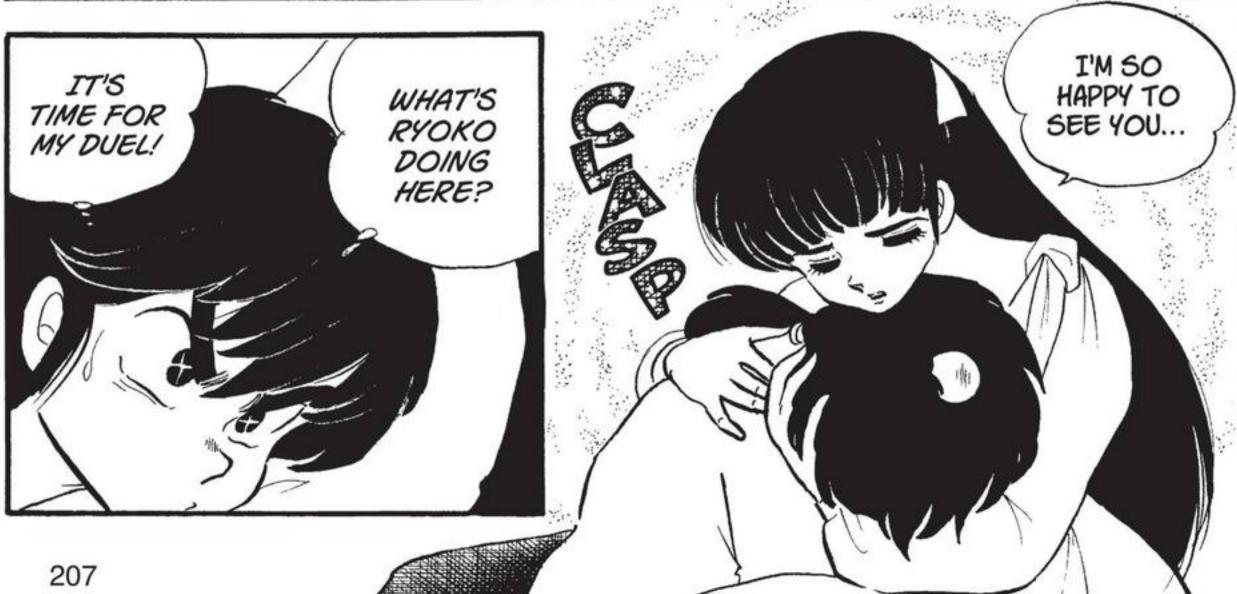






















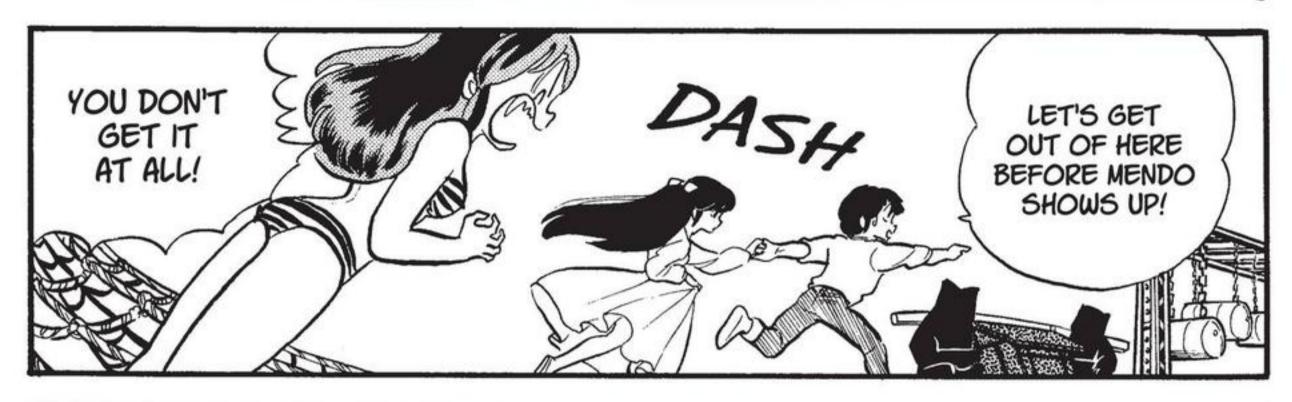


















KUROKO IS JUST ONE OF THE DISGUISES I WEAR...





BIG BROTHER, IT WAS SNEAKY OF YOU TO DRESS AS A KUROKO!

HMPH!



WHY DO YOU
THINK I WENT TO
THE TROUBLE OF
CARRYING YOU AND
MOROBOSHI HERE IN
THAT PALANQUIN?



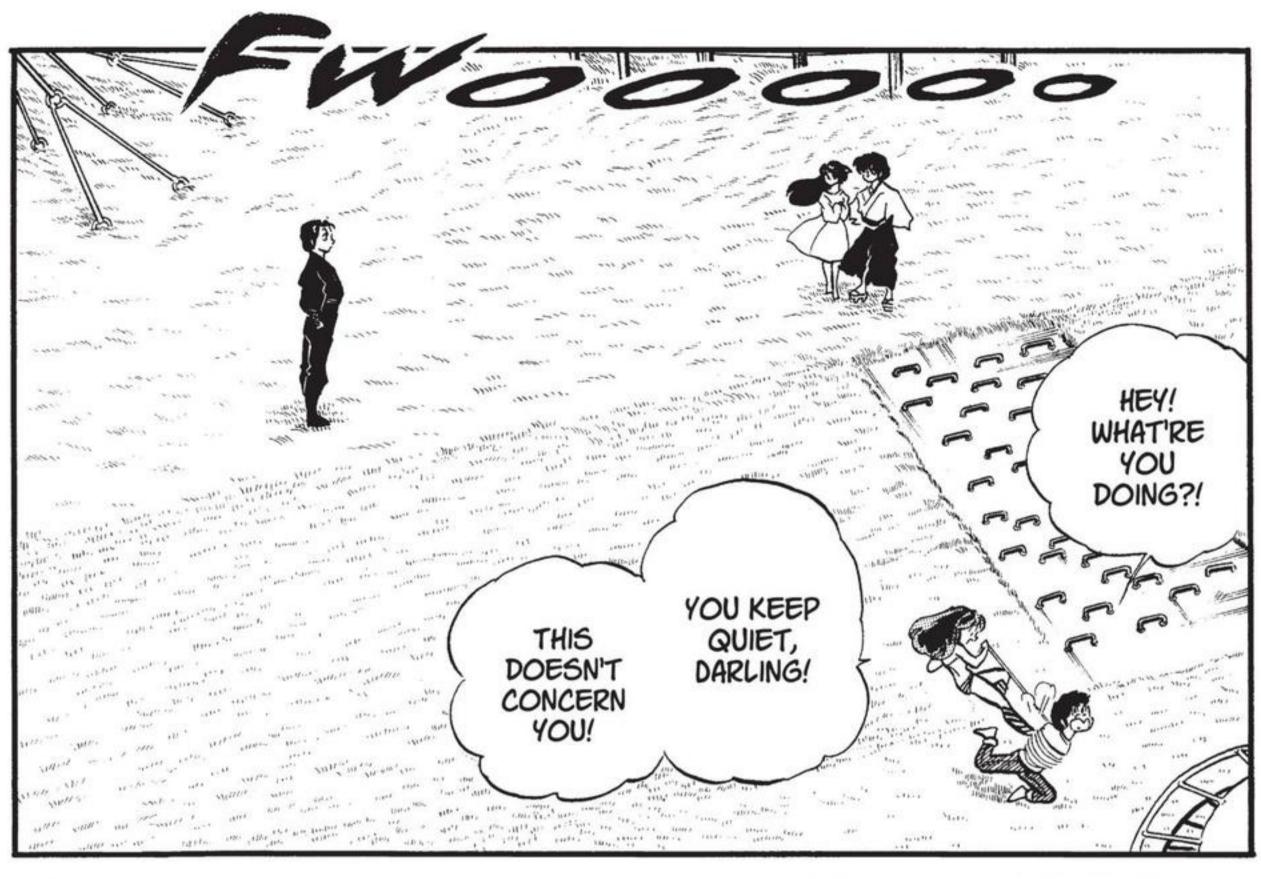






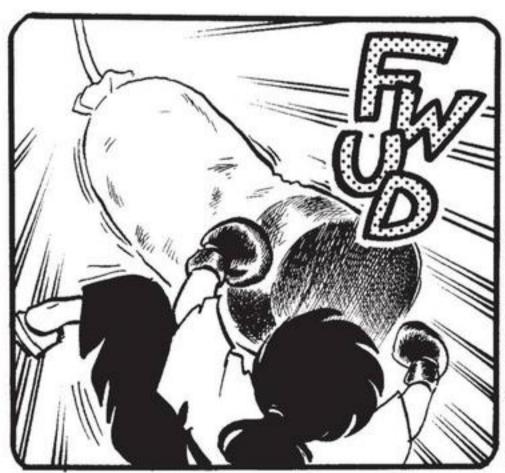
CHAPTER 13: LOVE LETTER TROUBLE

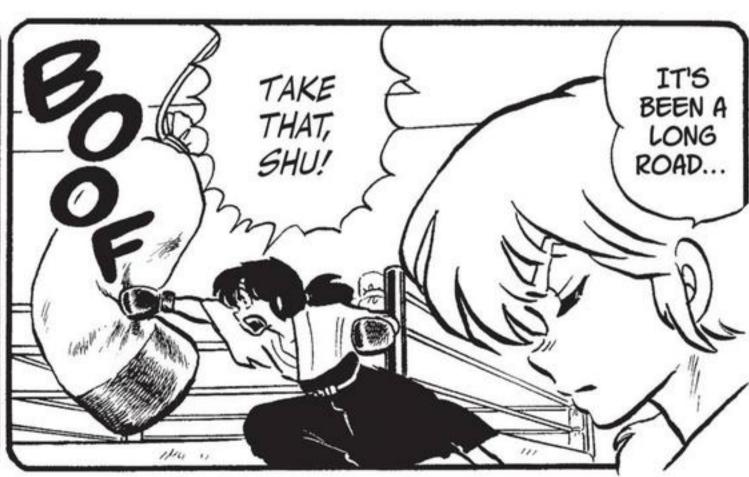










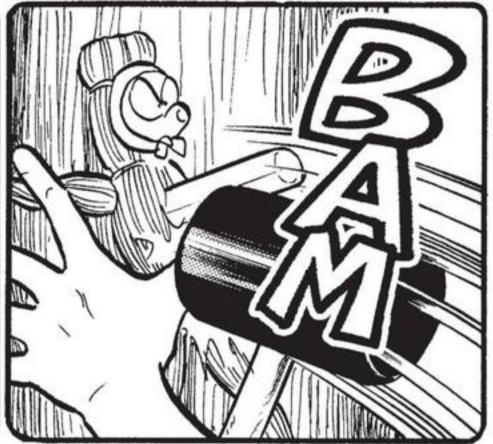










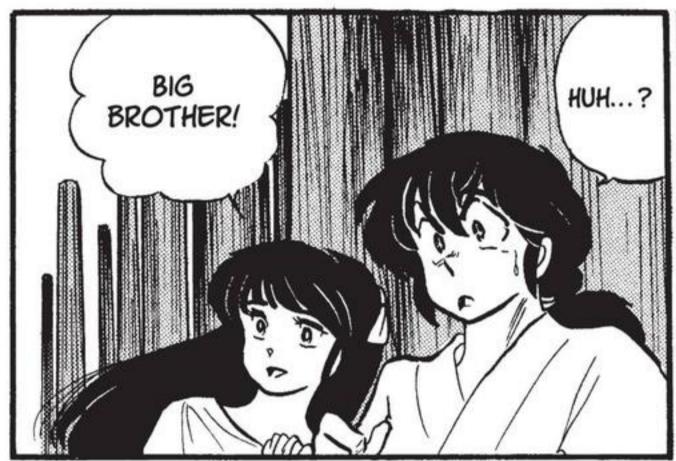






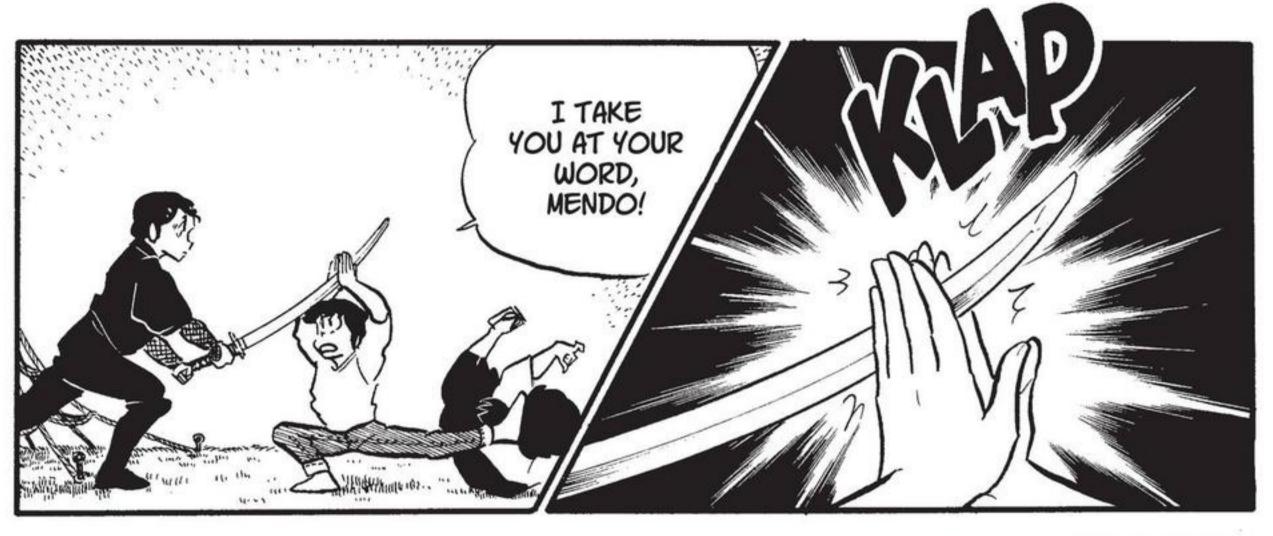




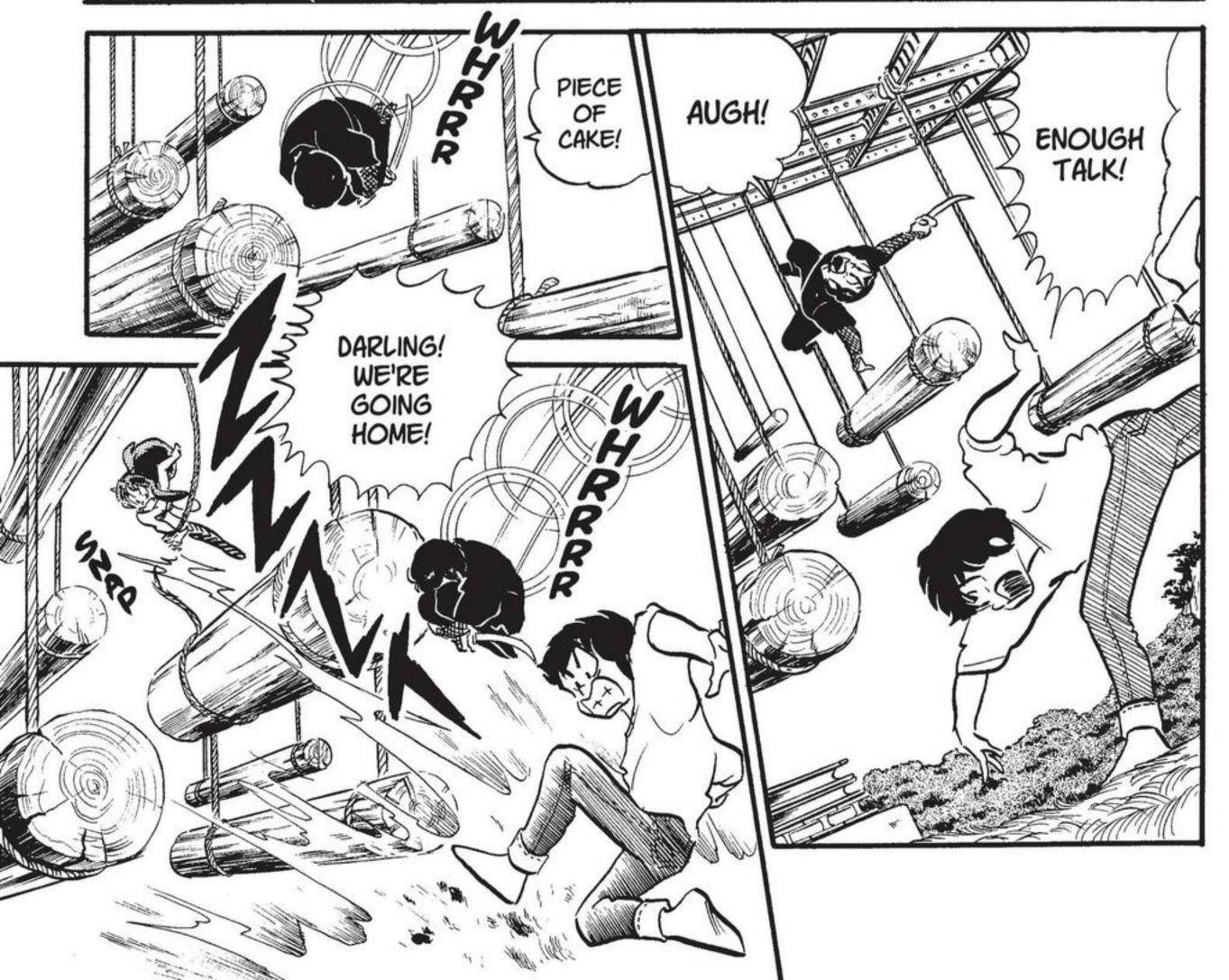


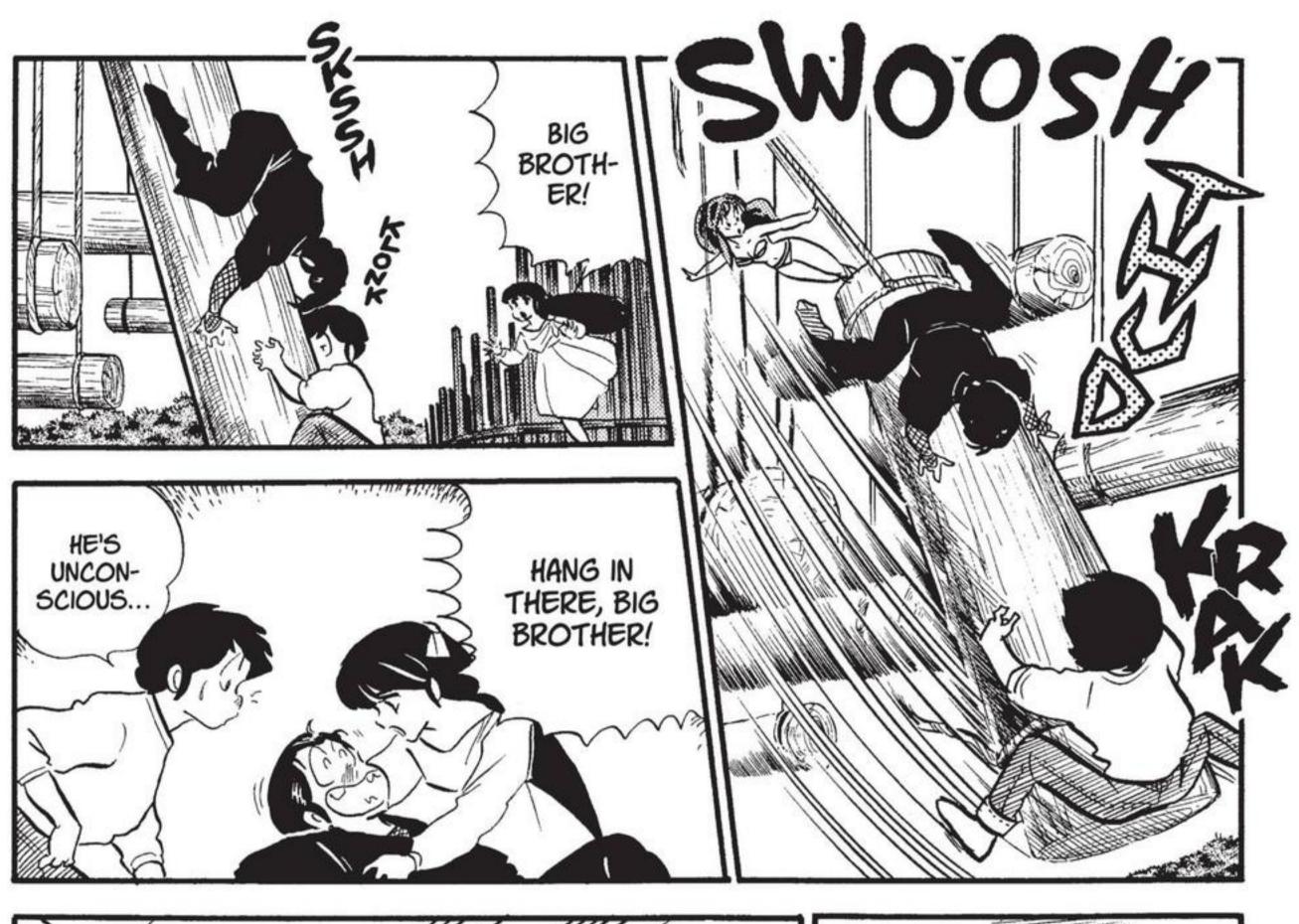


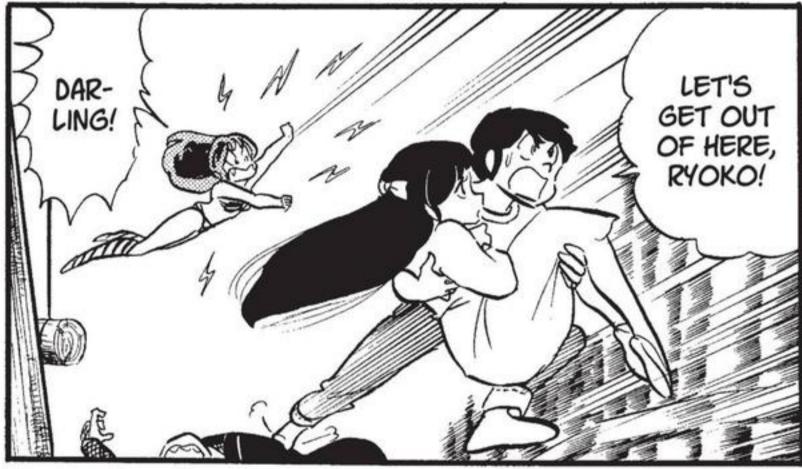




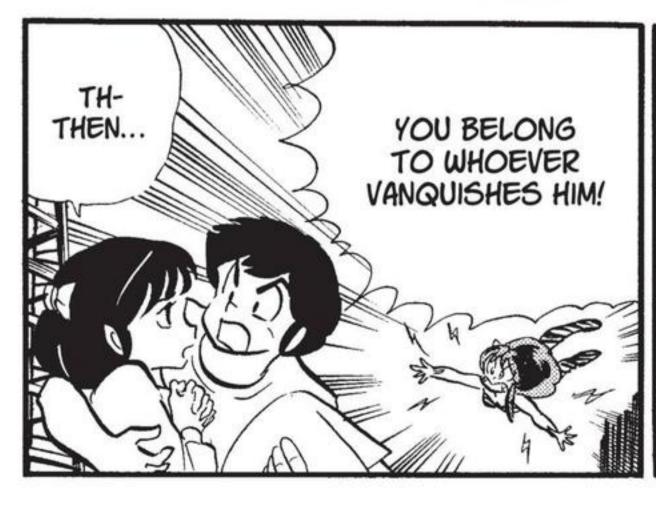


















L-LET GO!

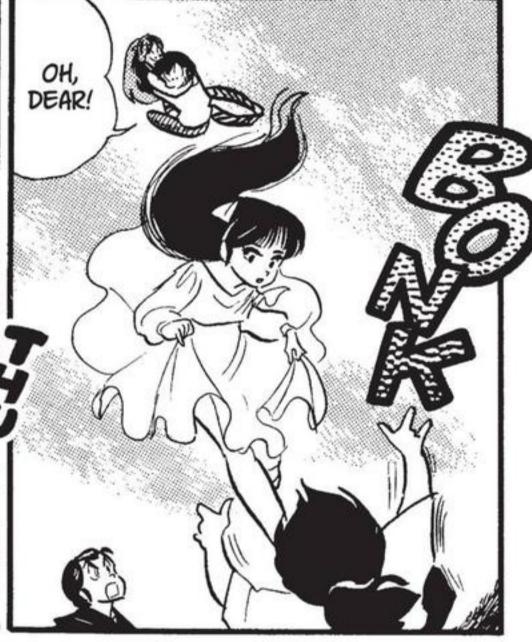
YOU'RE























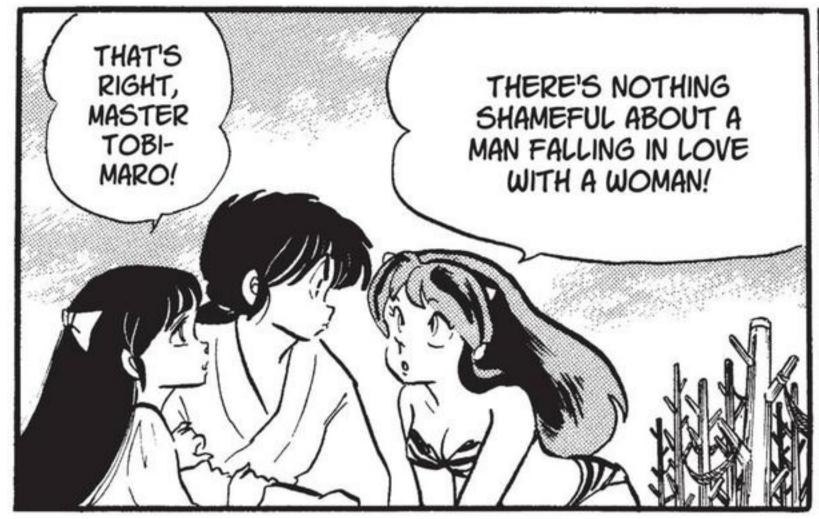








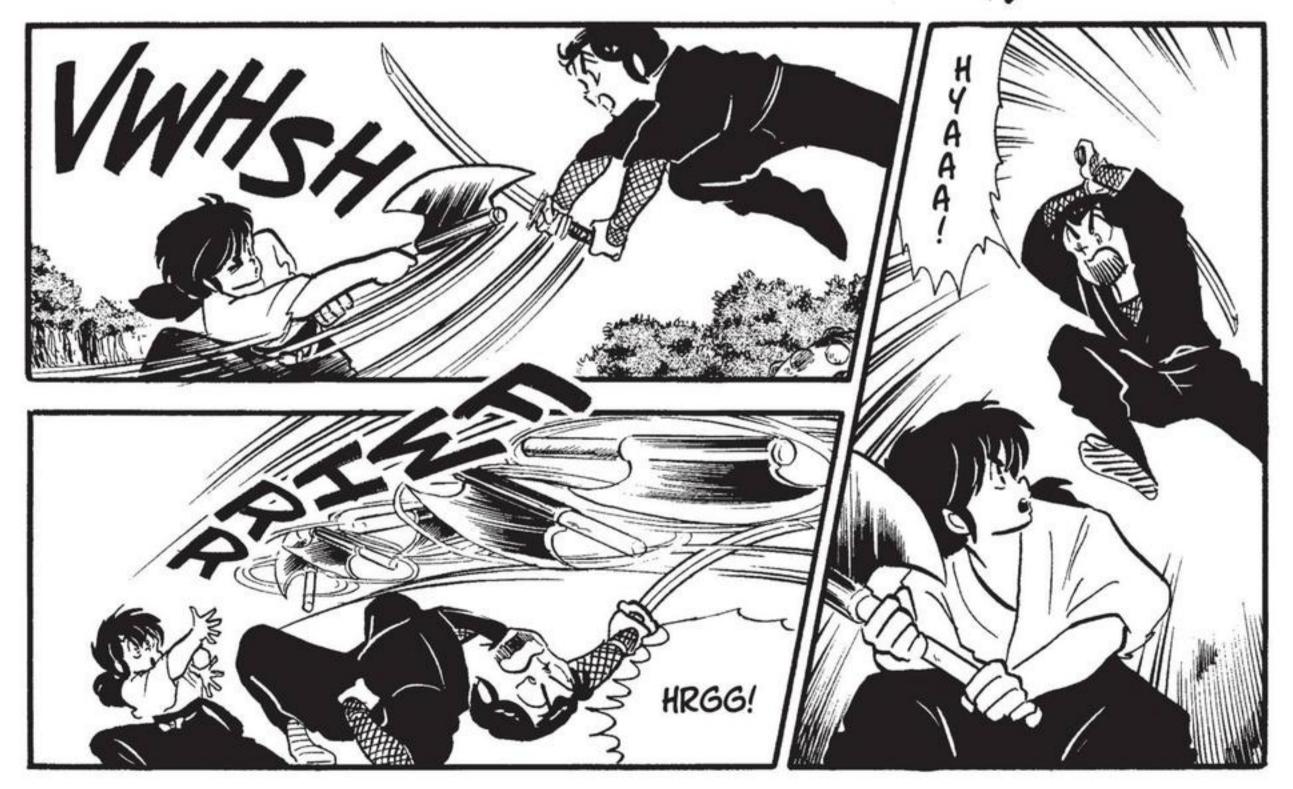


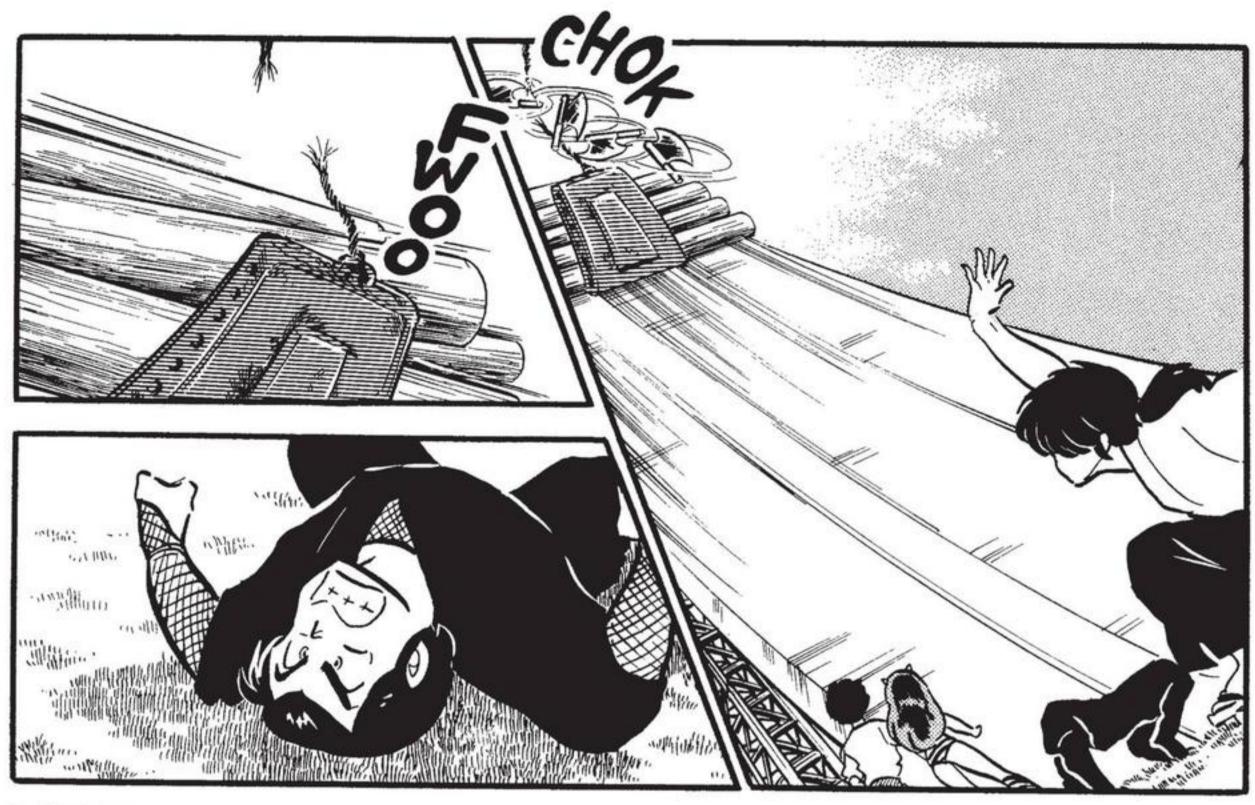


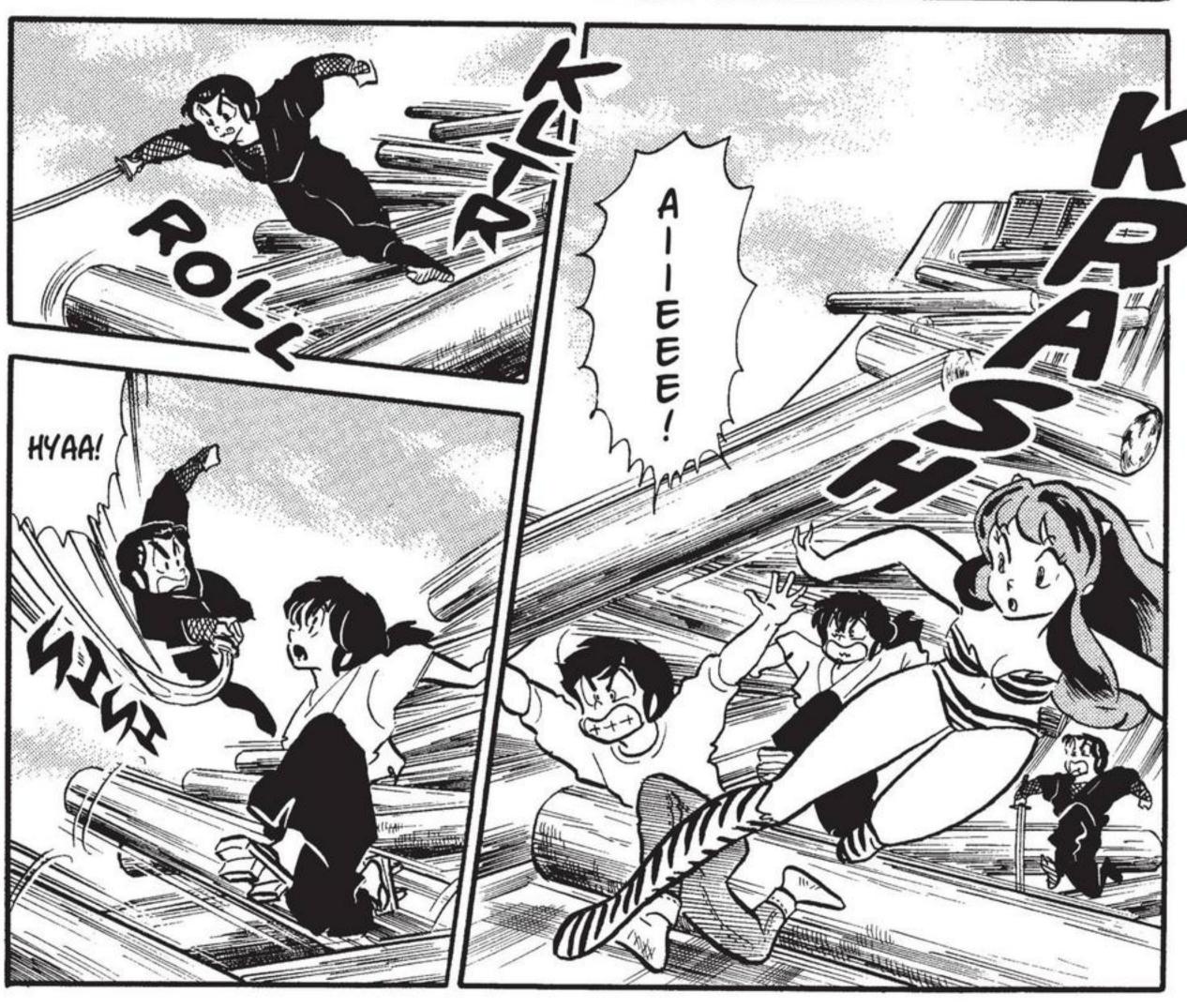












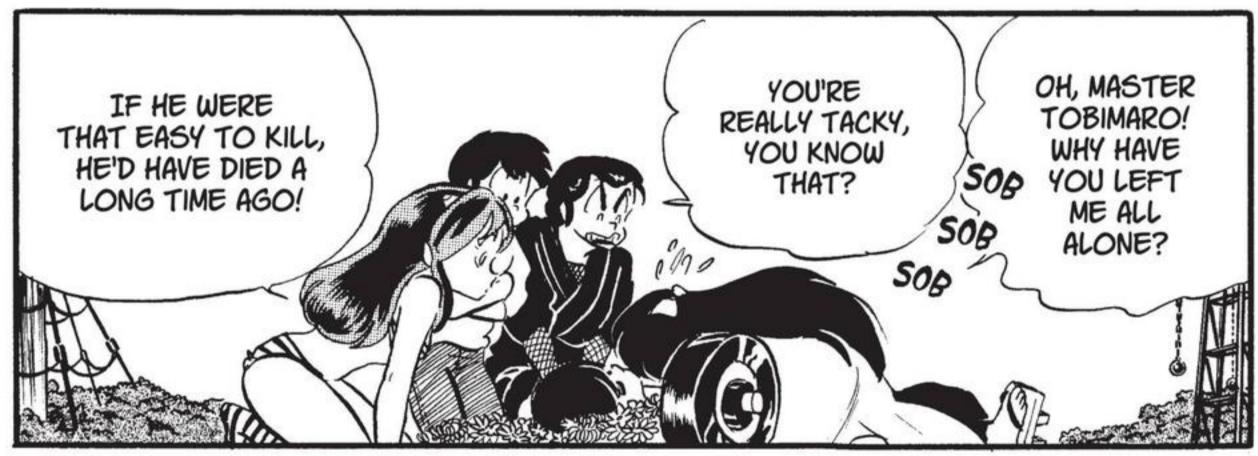


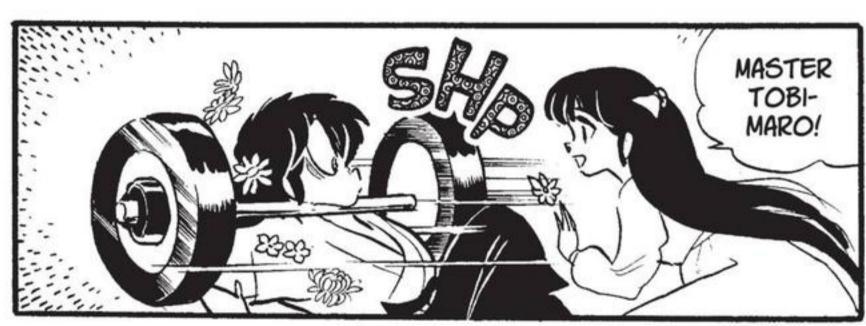


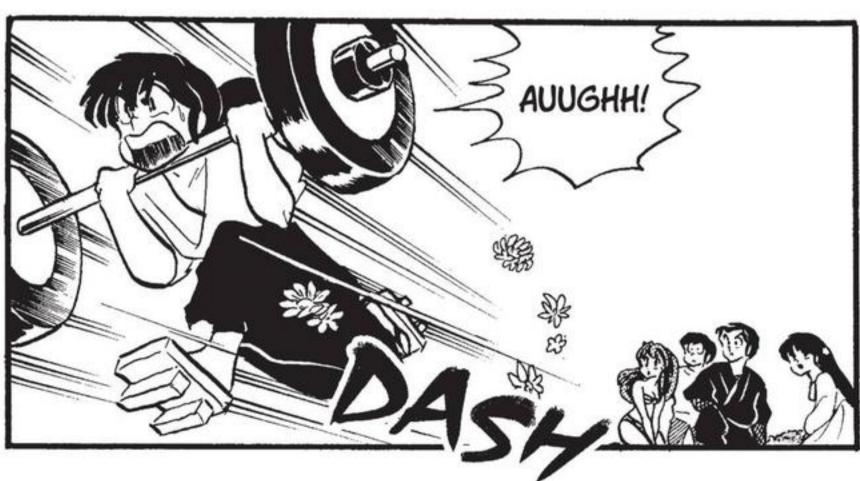








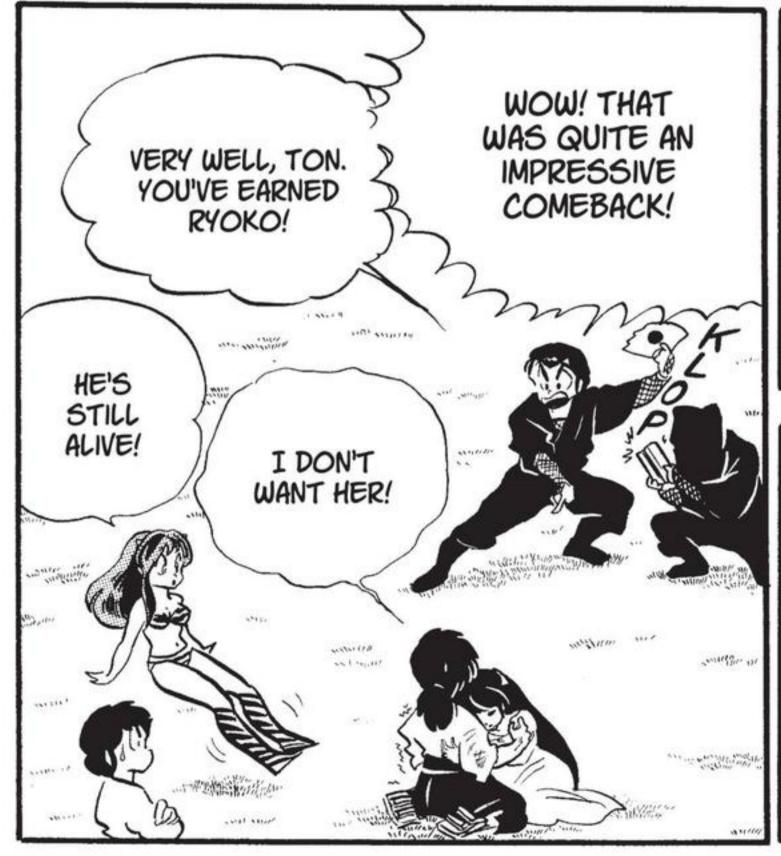








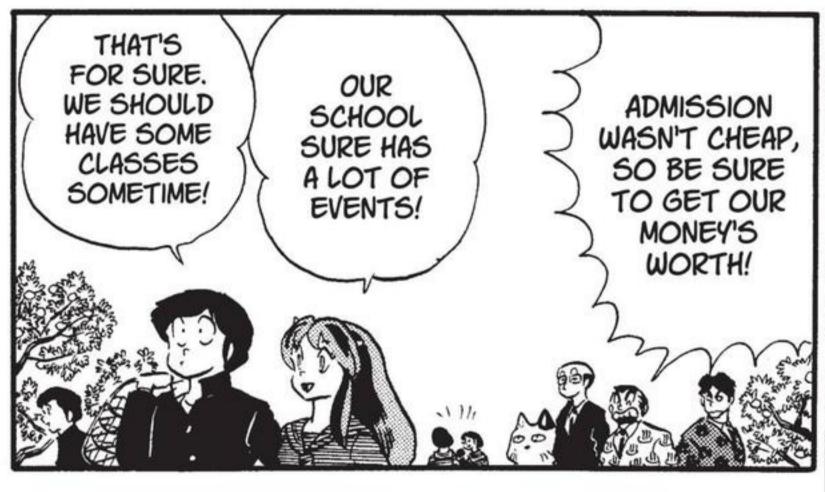




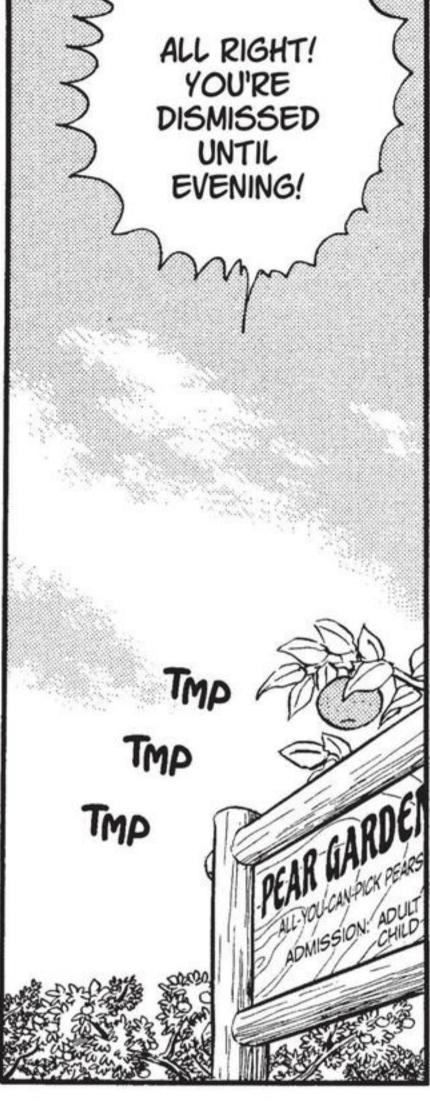








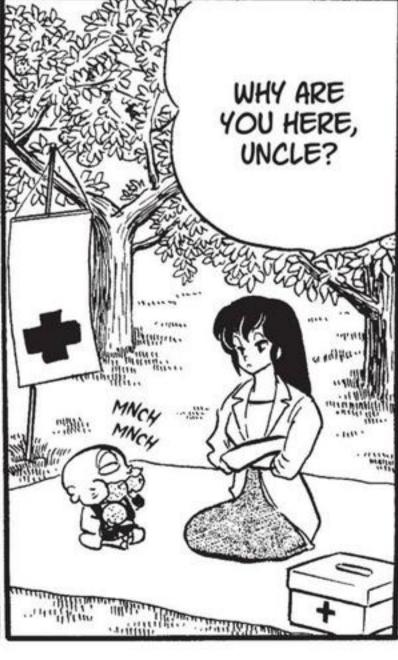




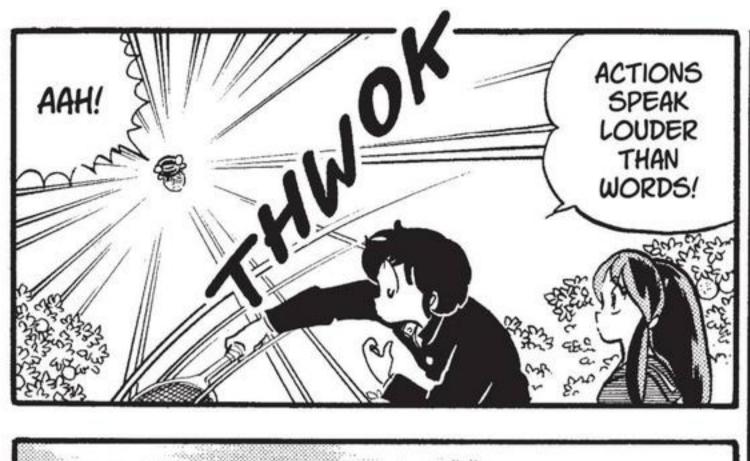








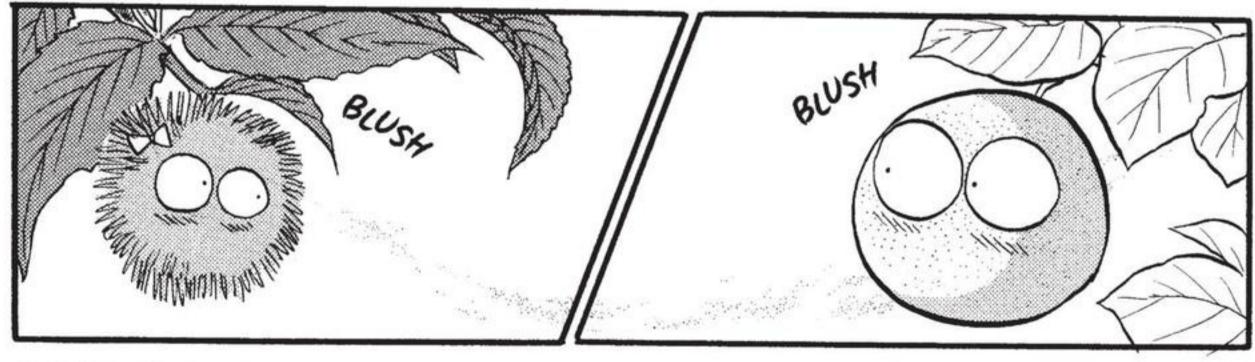


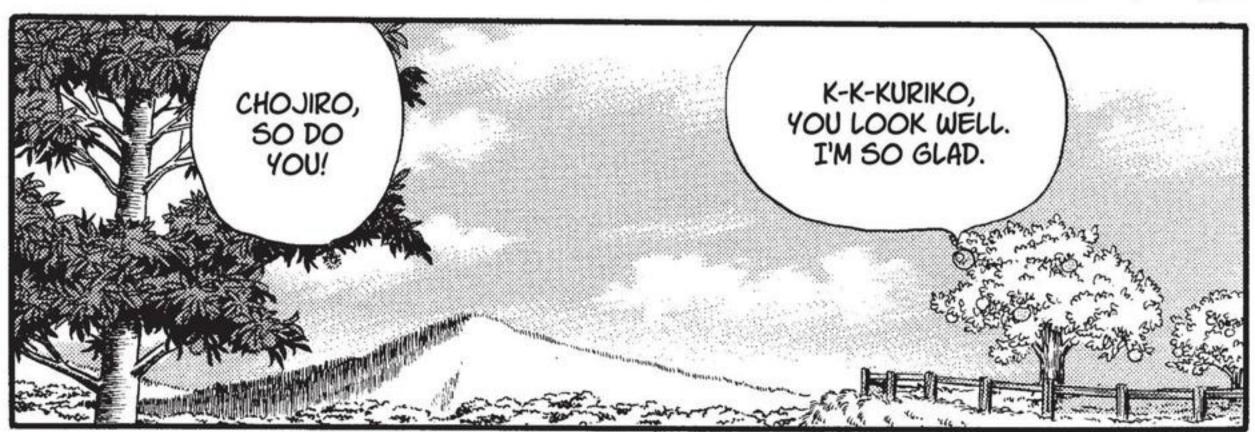


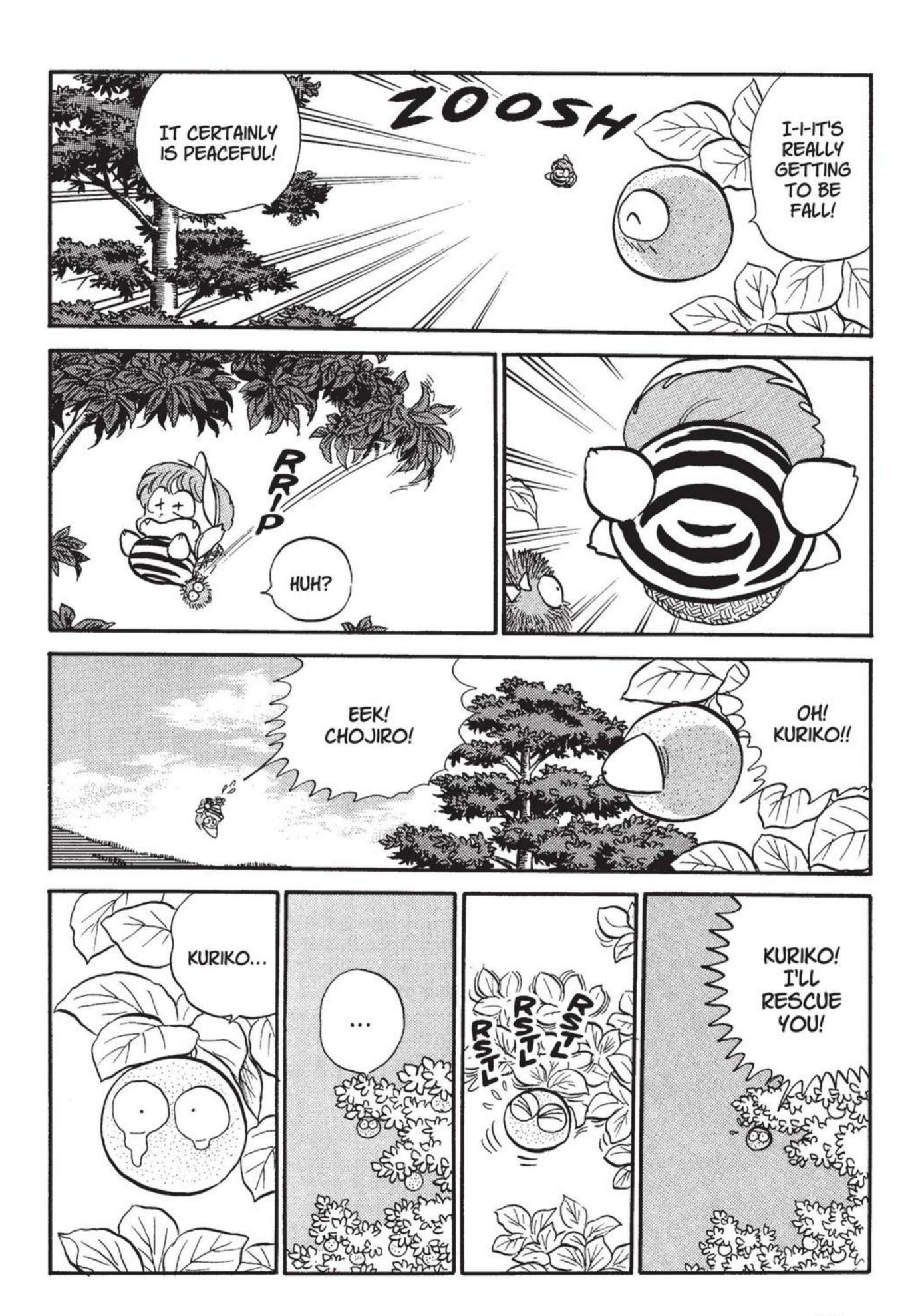


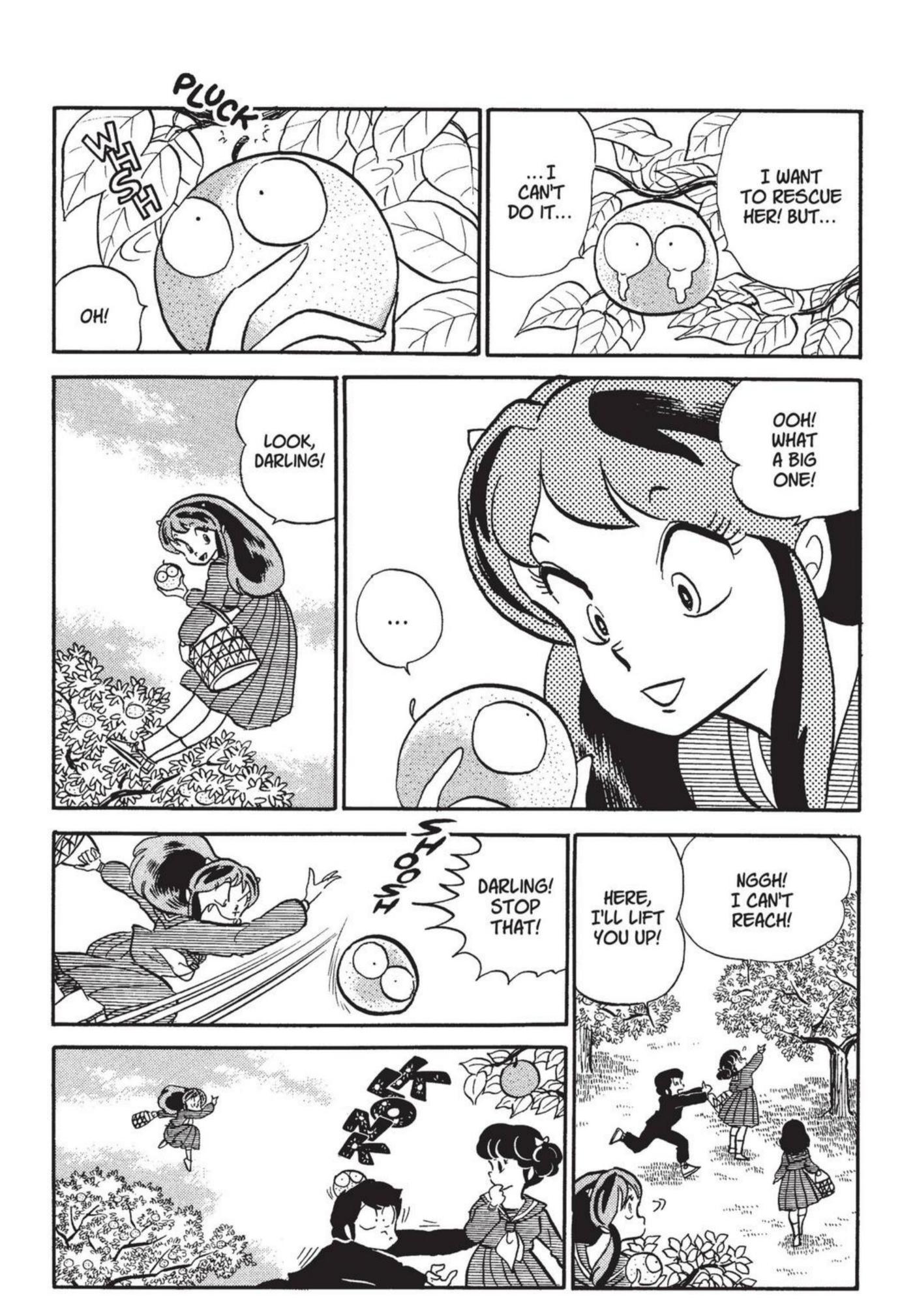


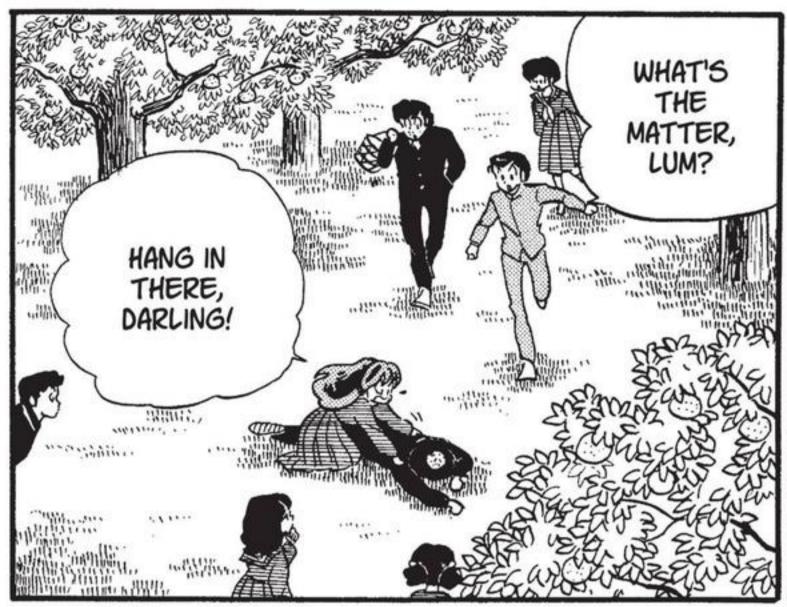
...YOU AND I... WE WERE HAPPY JUST GAZING AT ONE ANOTHER...













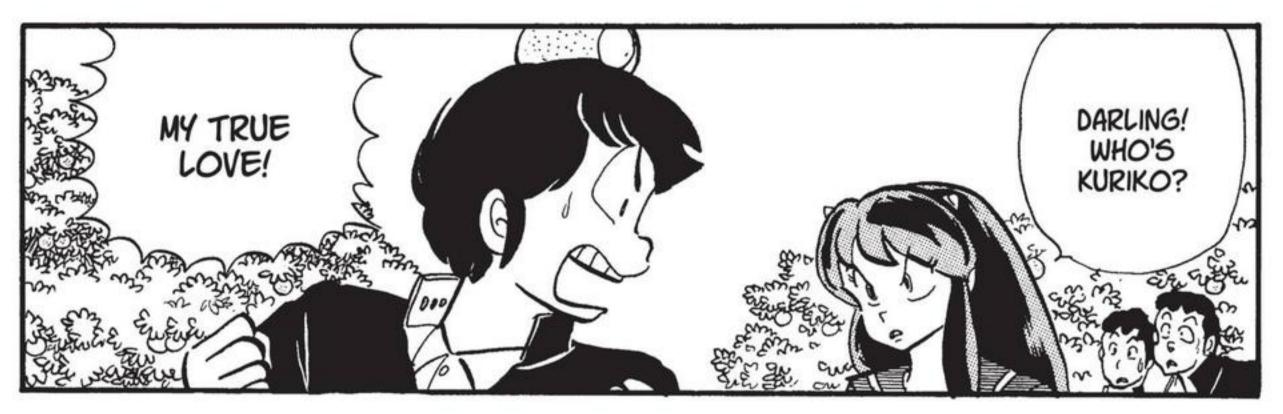






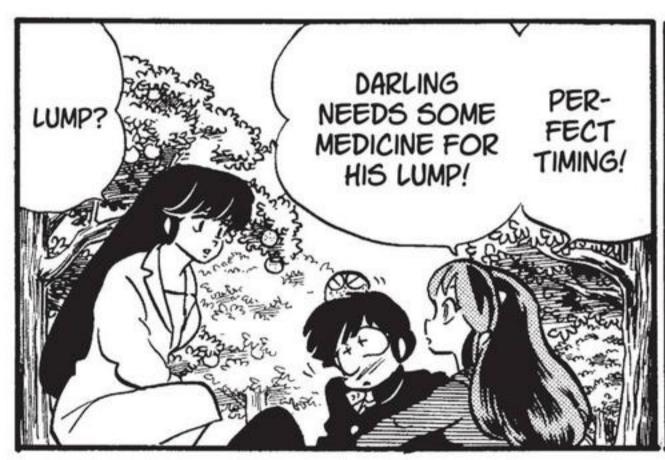




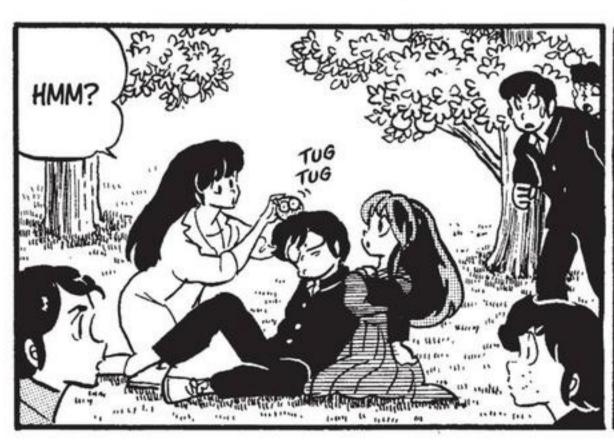




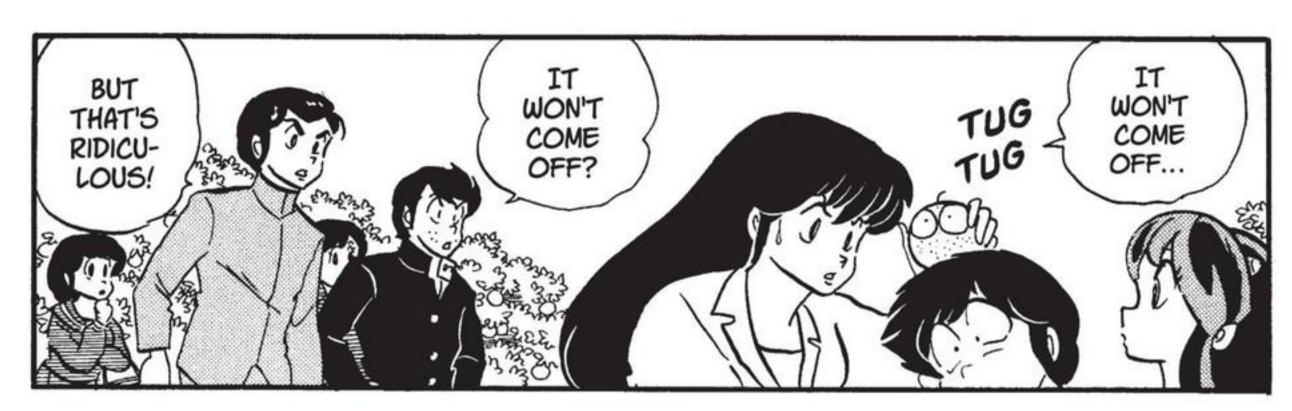


















FLAIL FLAIL

I'LL GIVE IT TO SAKURA!







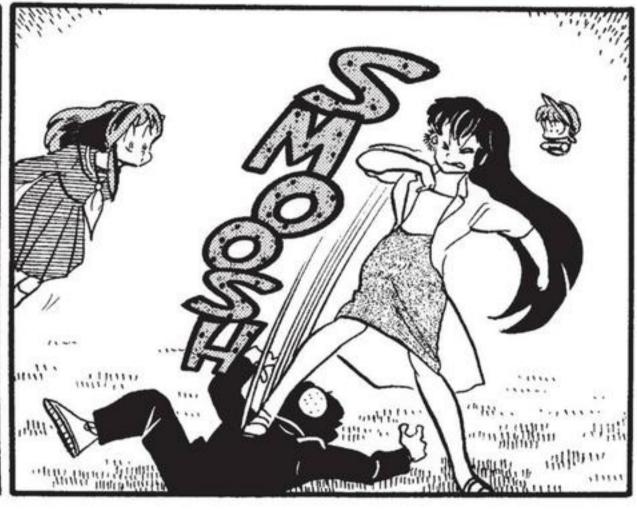








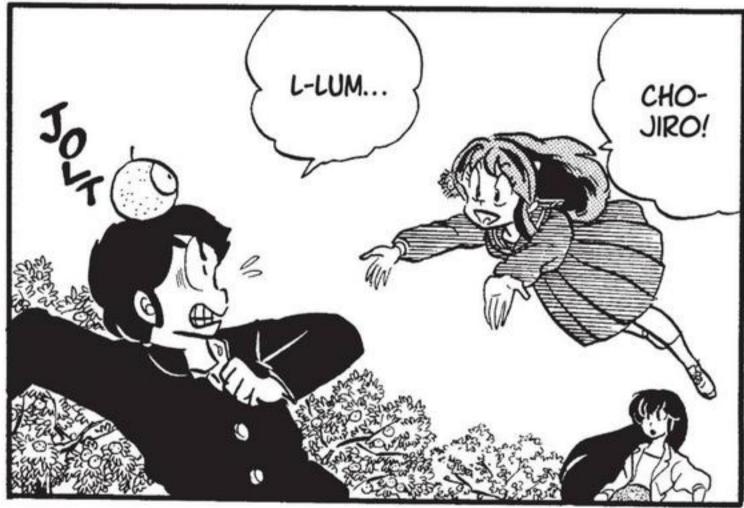


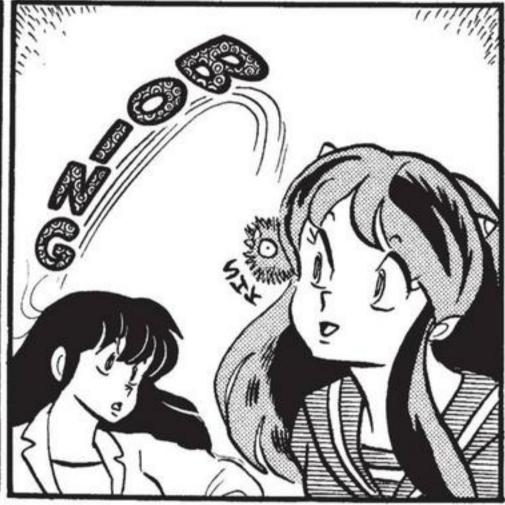




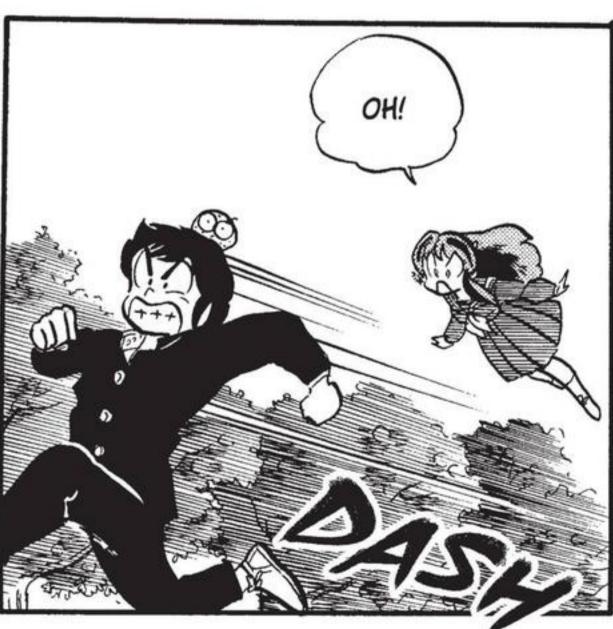






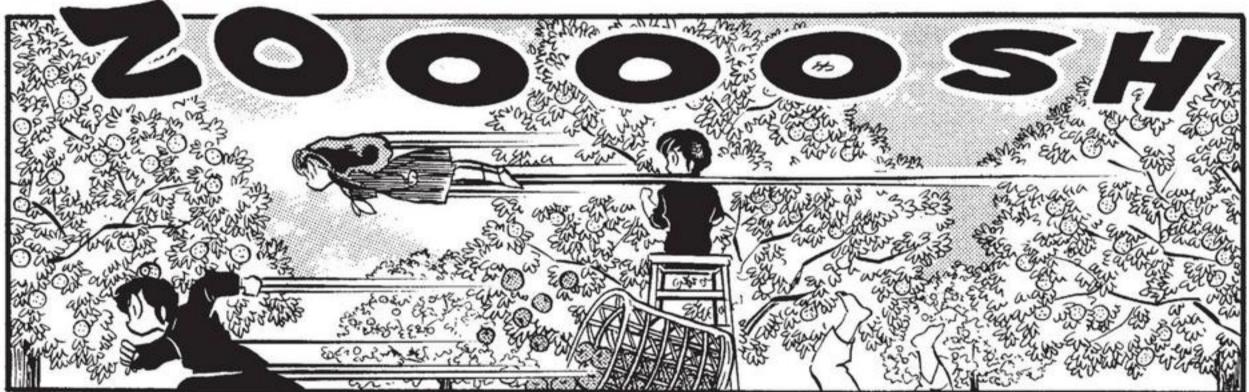


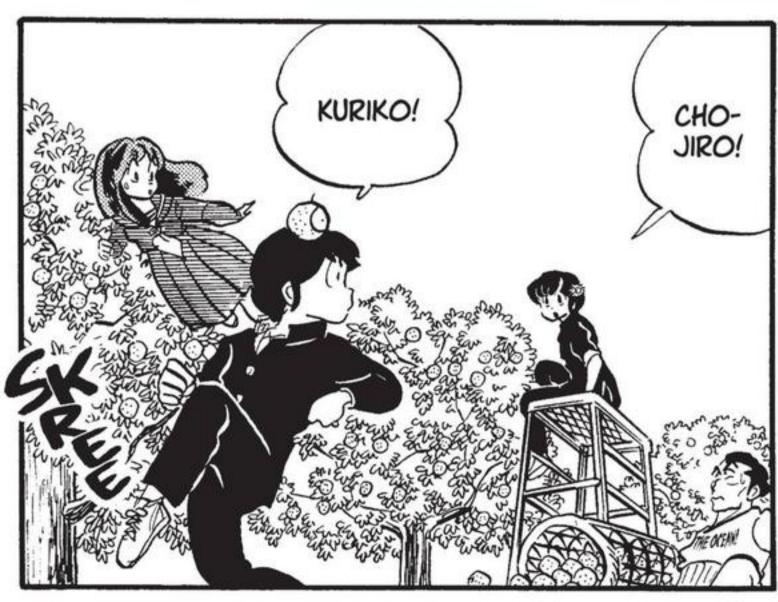




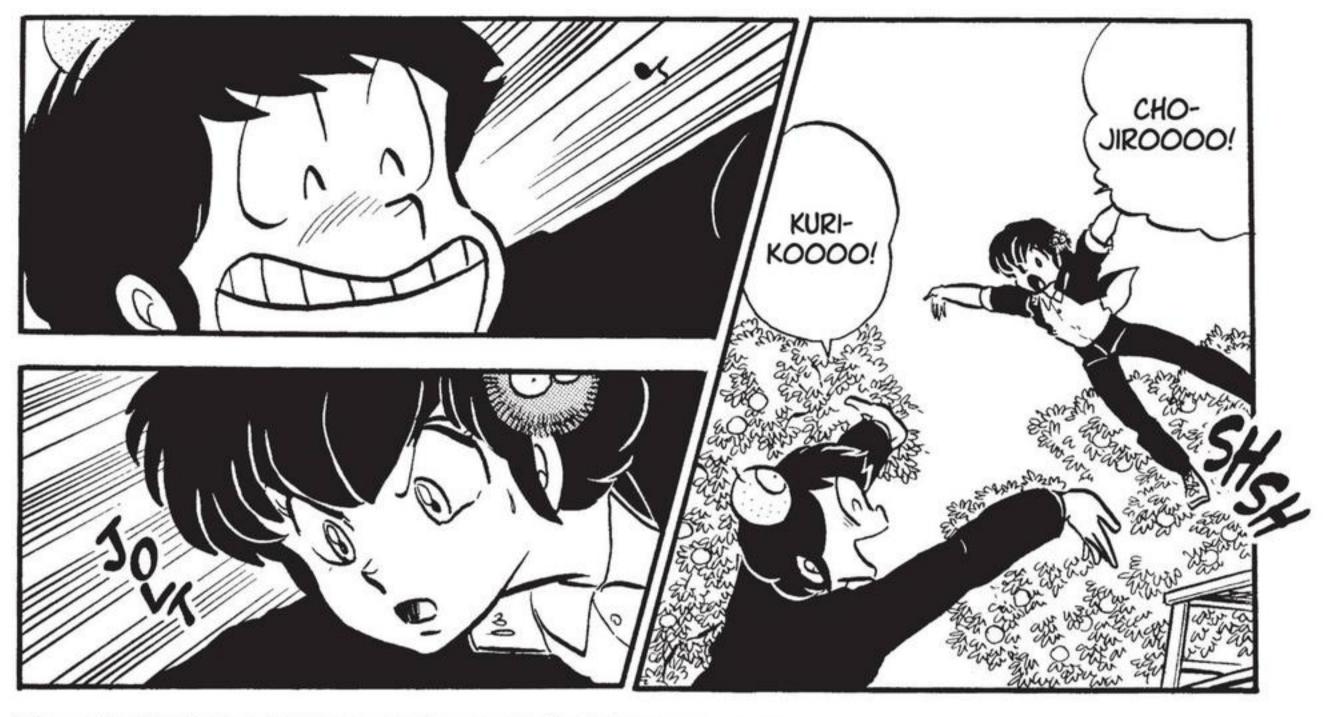










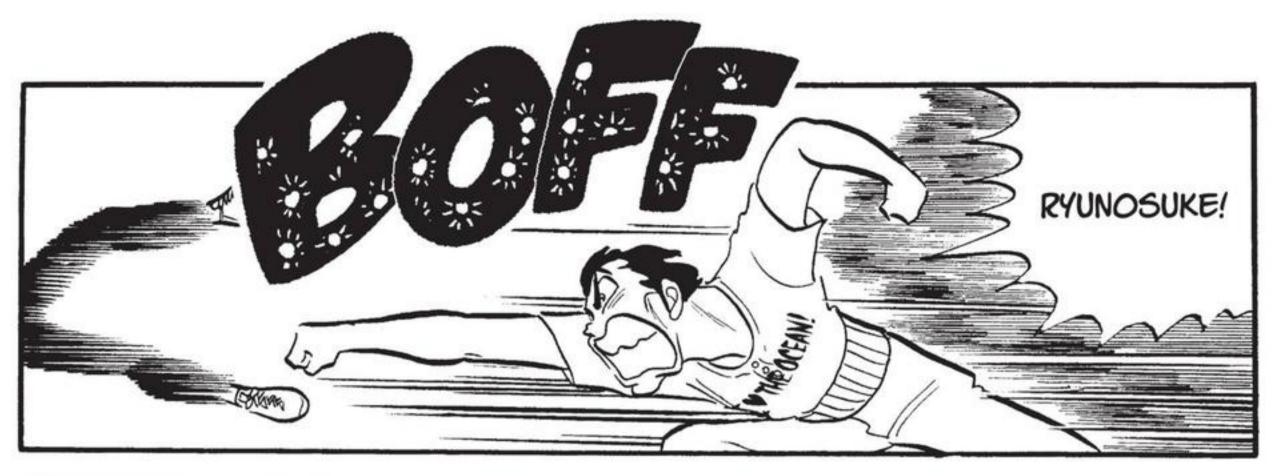






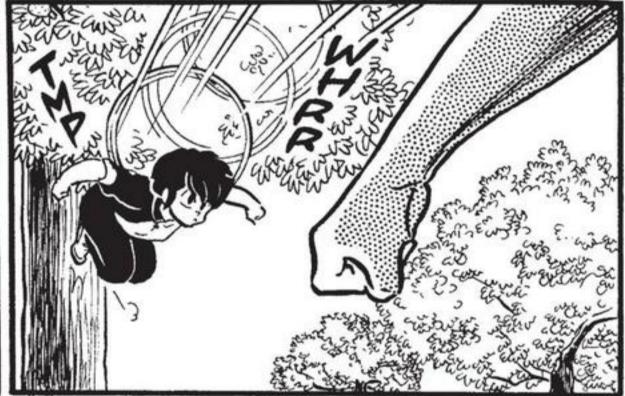


















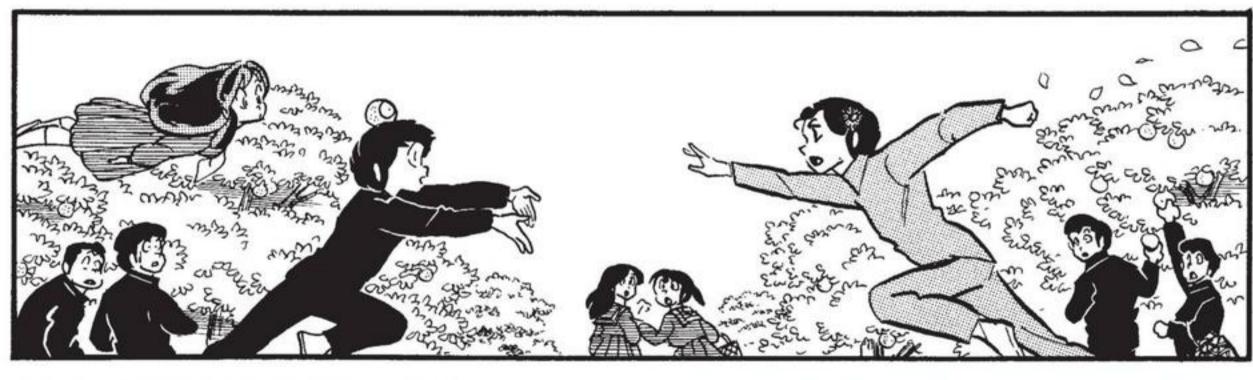




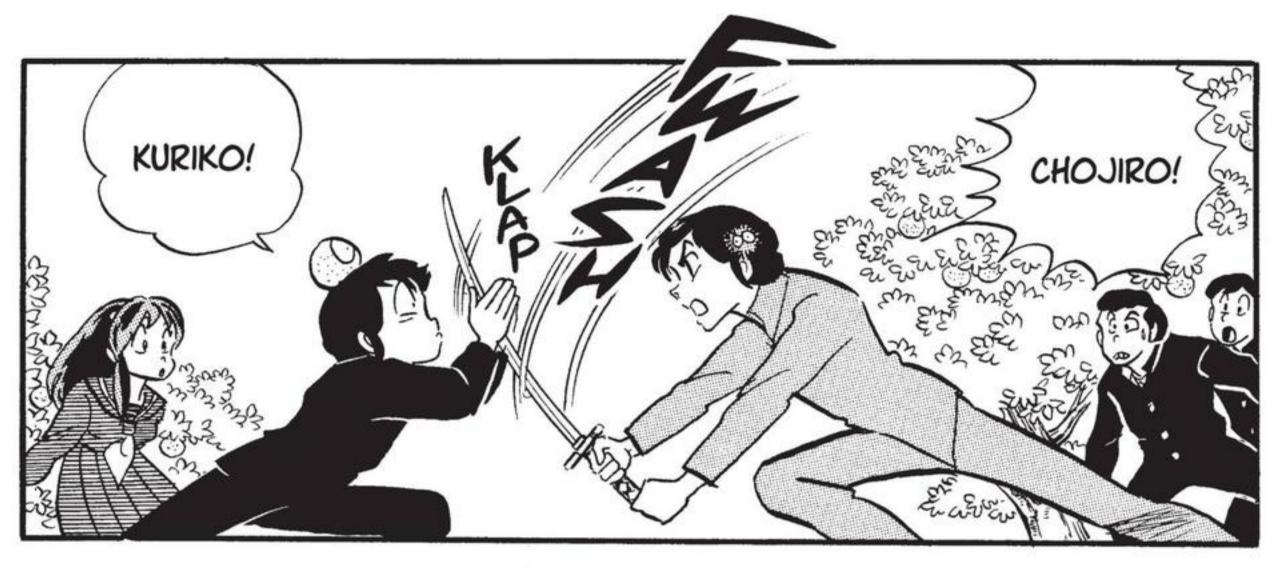


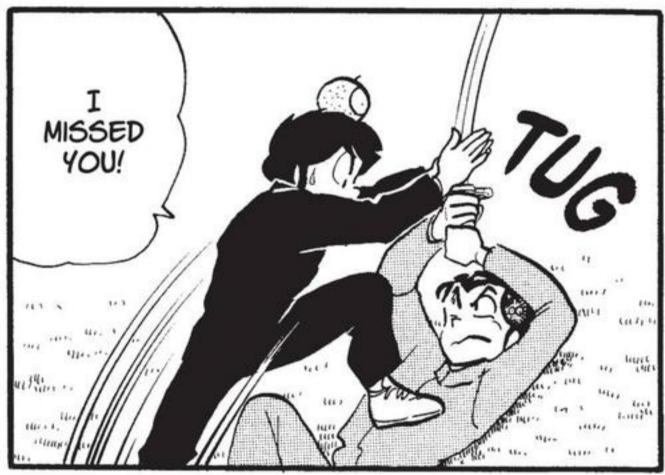












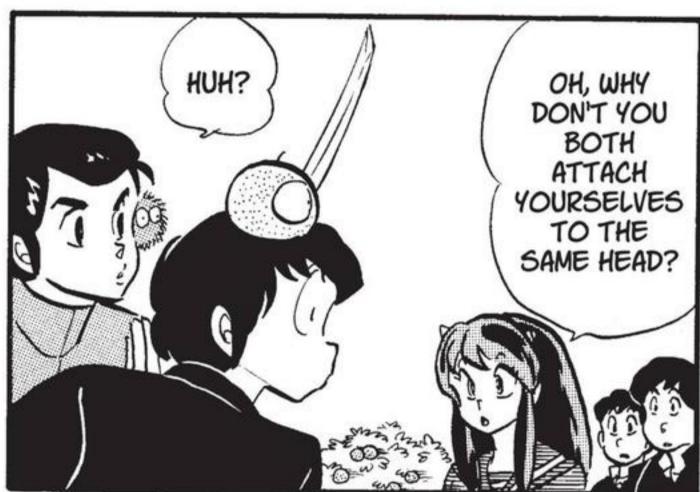




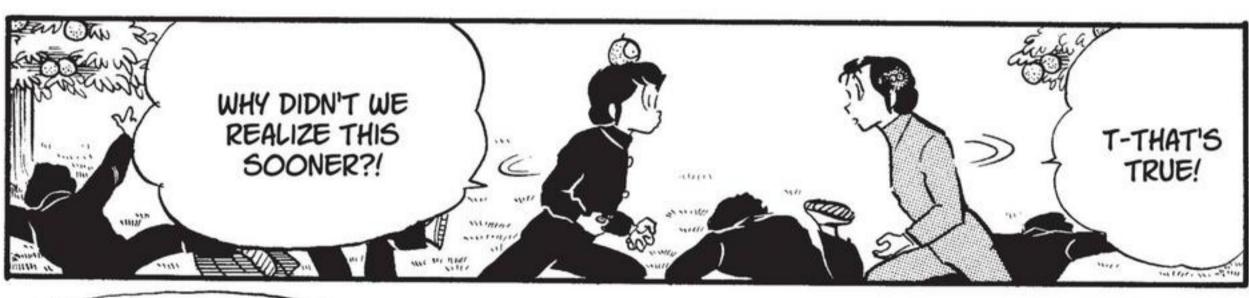


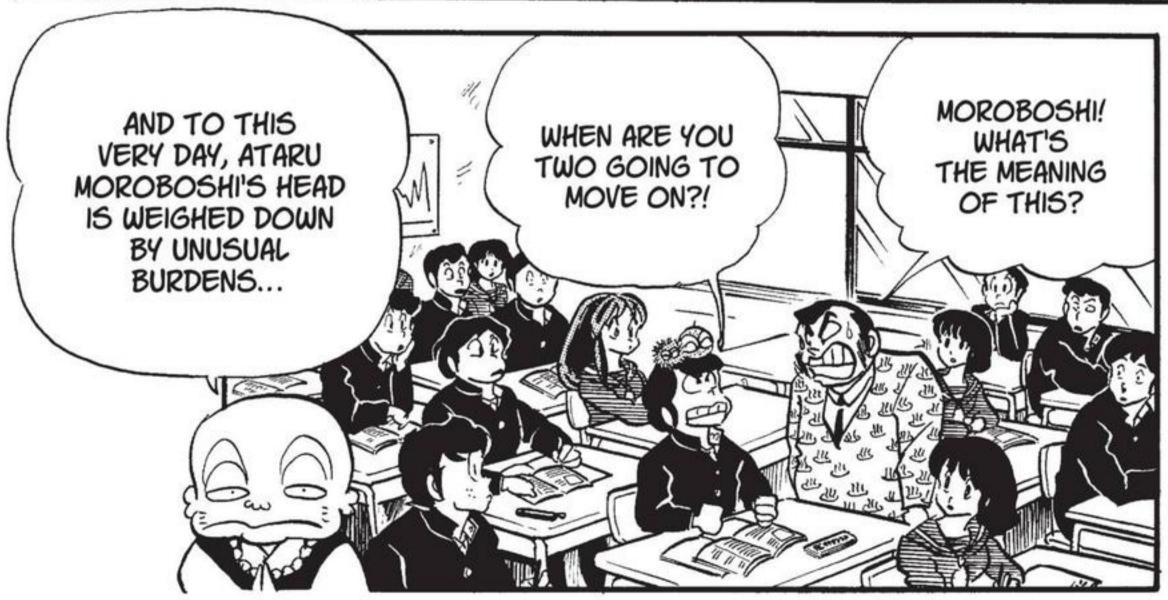












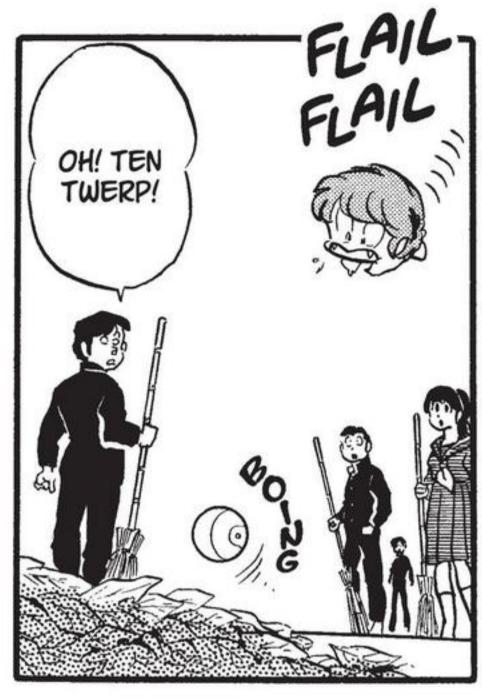










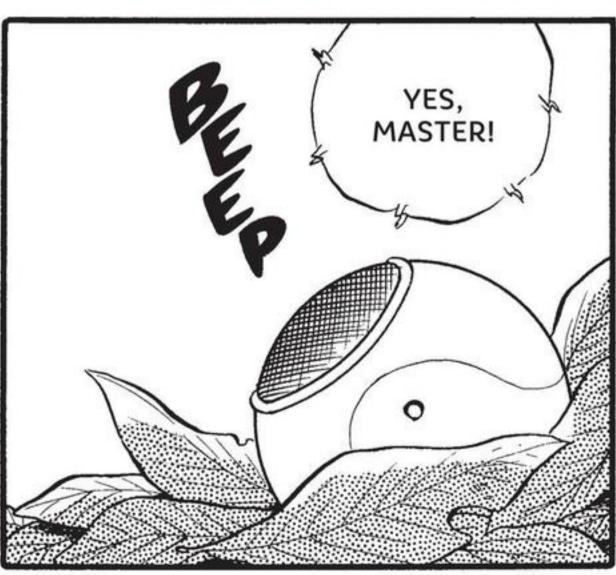


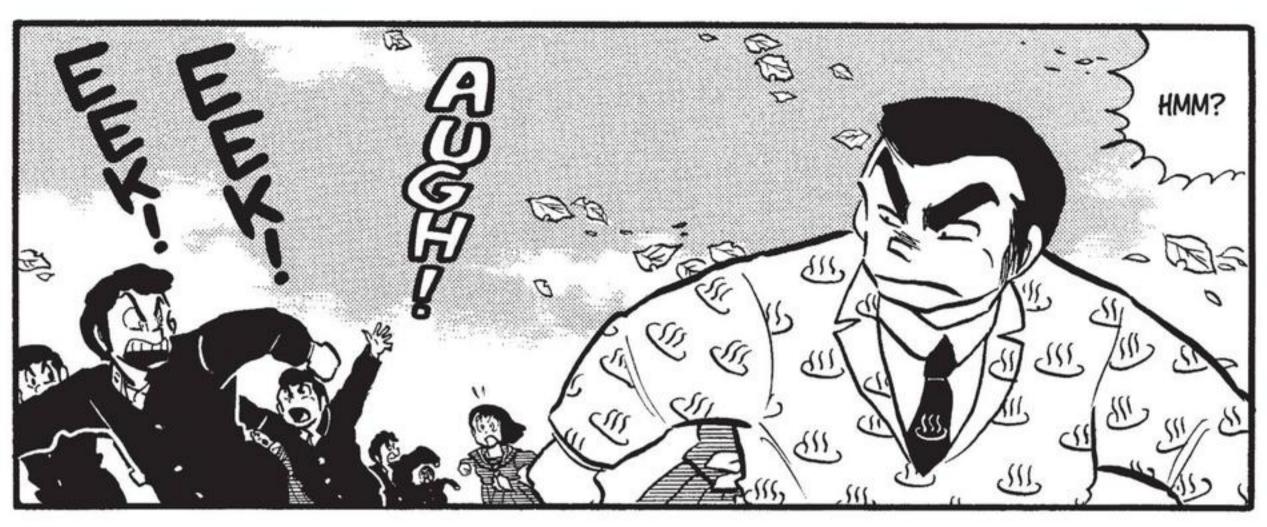


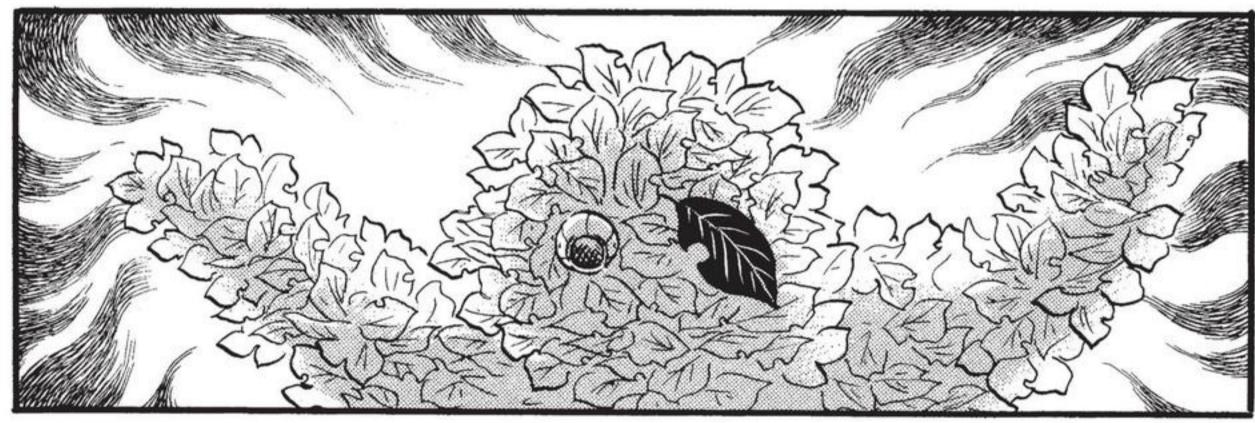


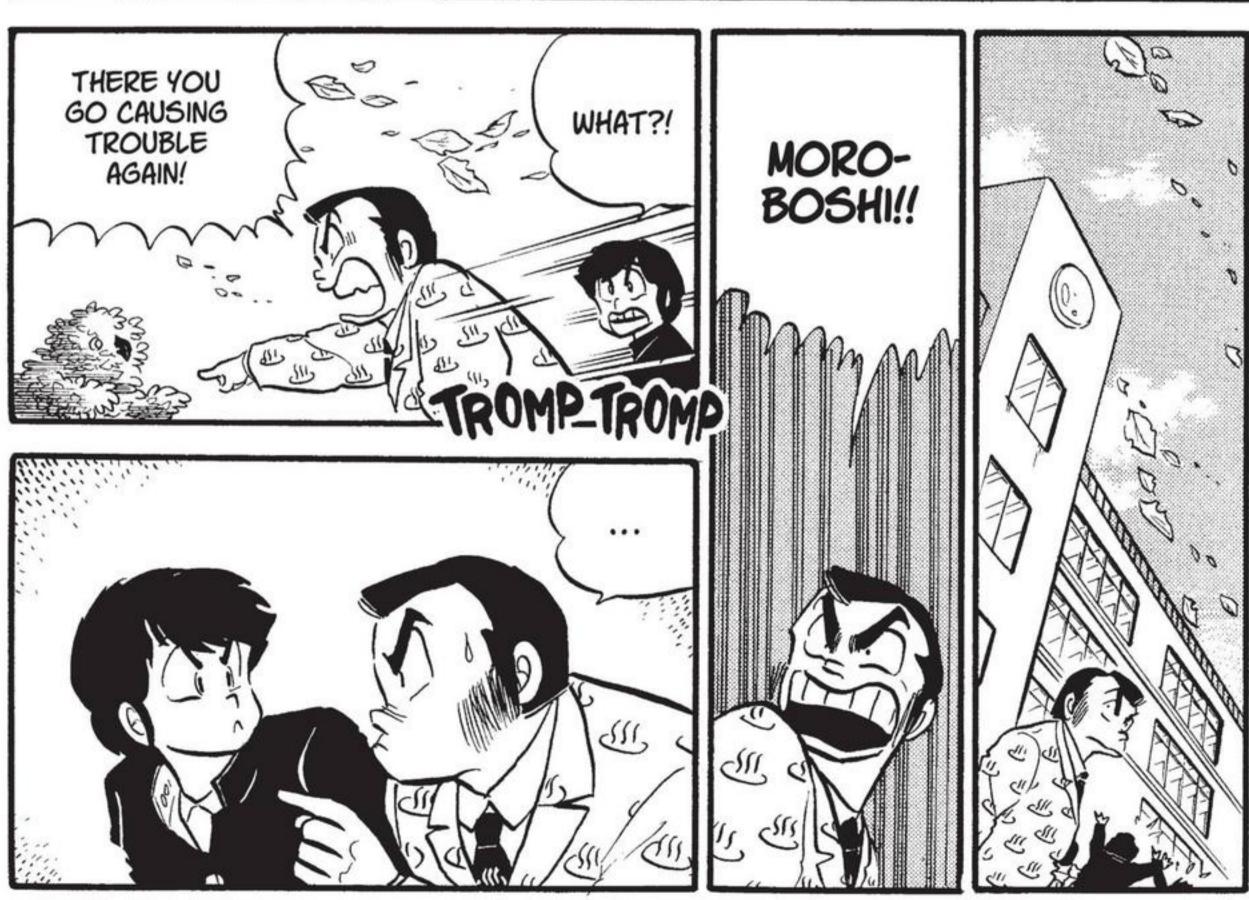










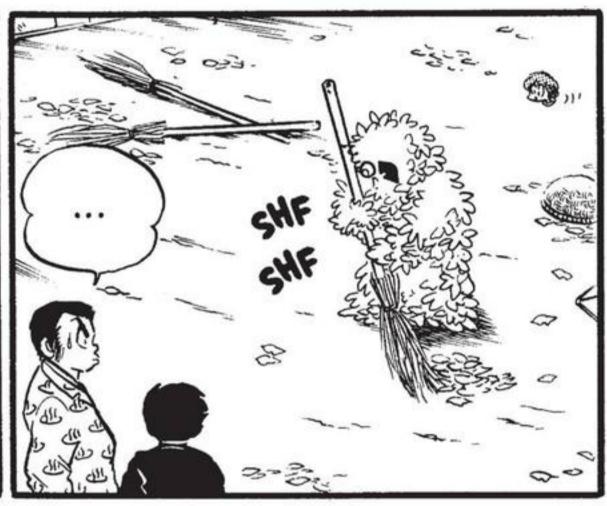








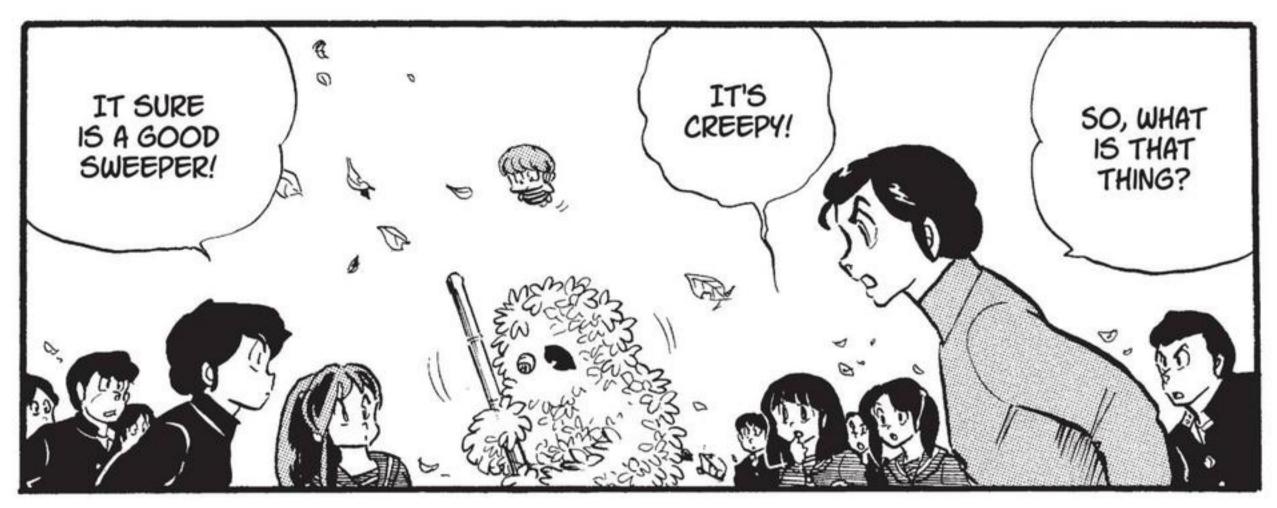
















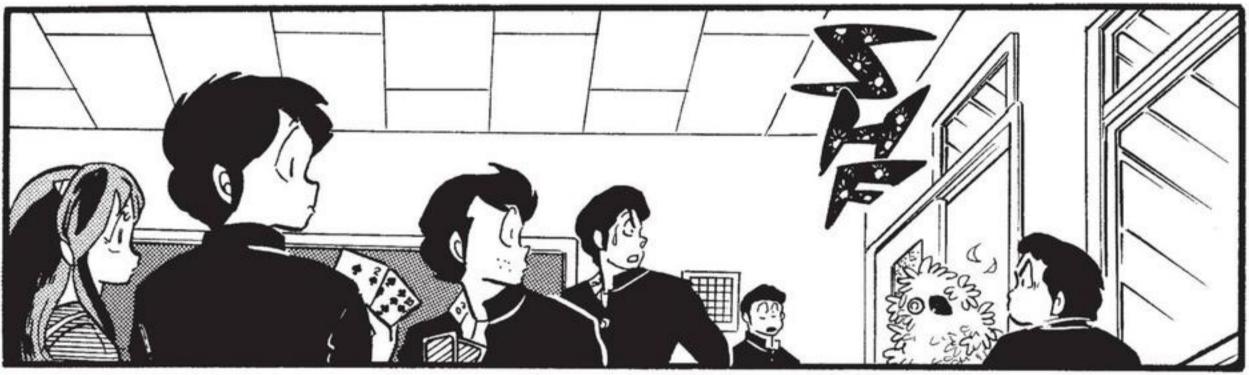
















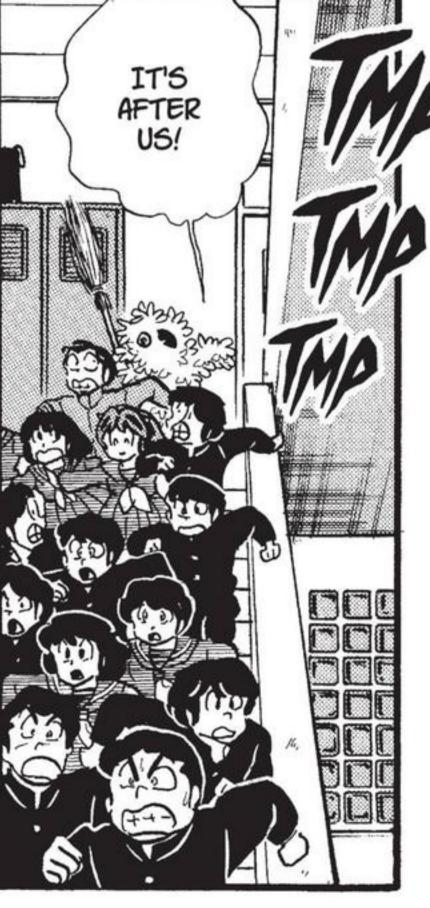


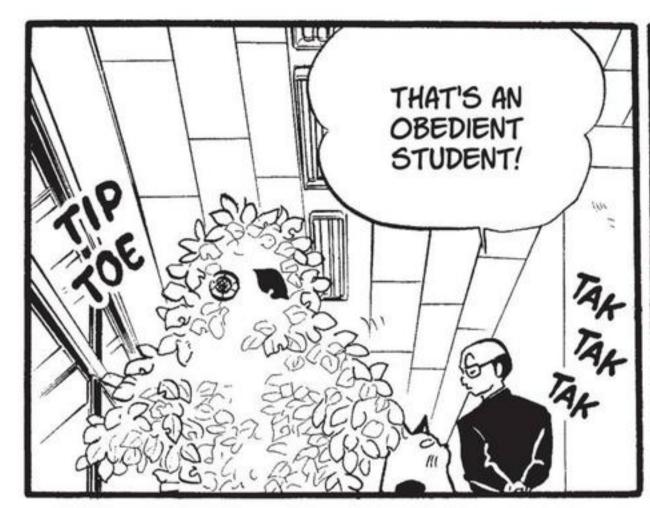






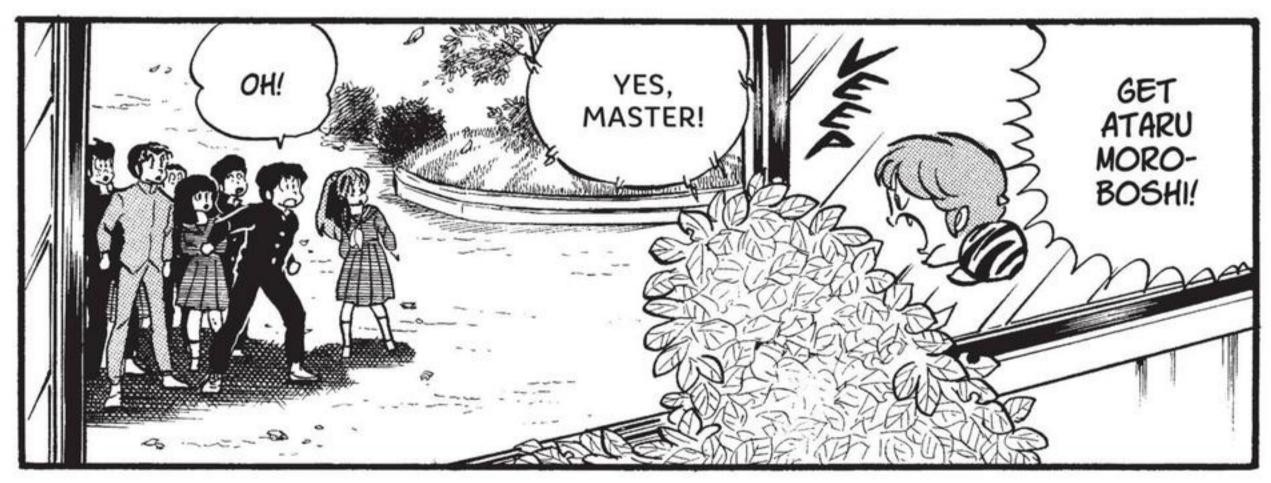










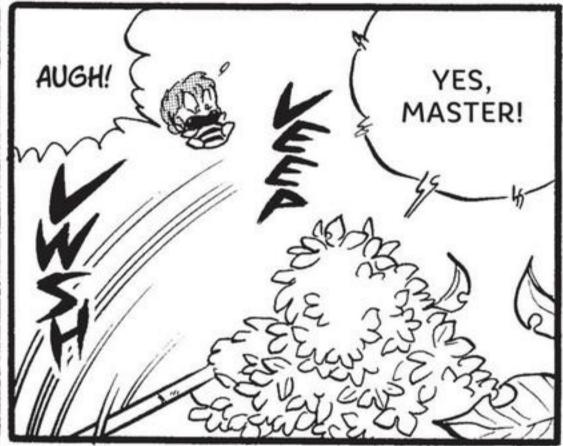


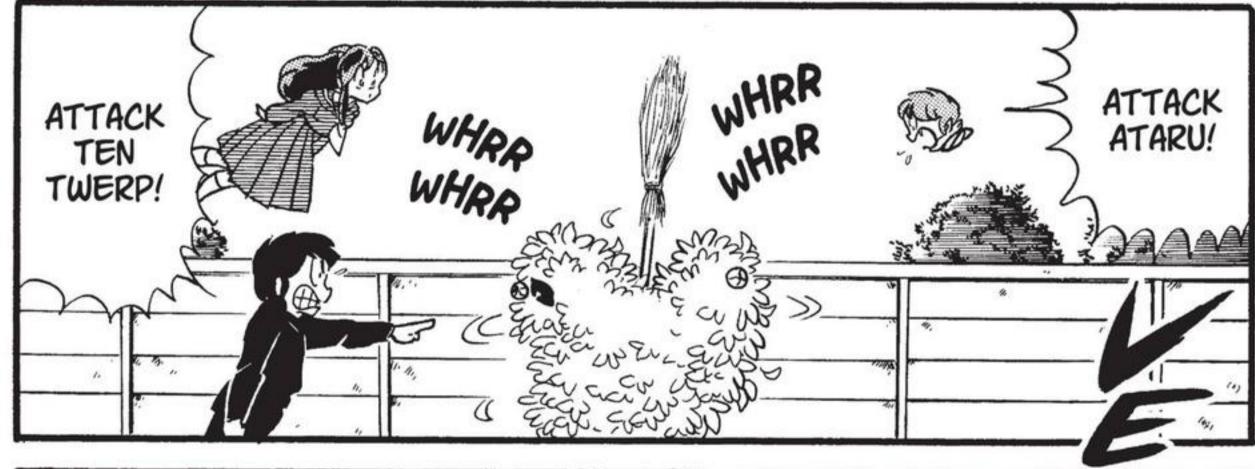




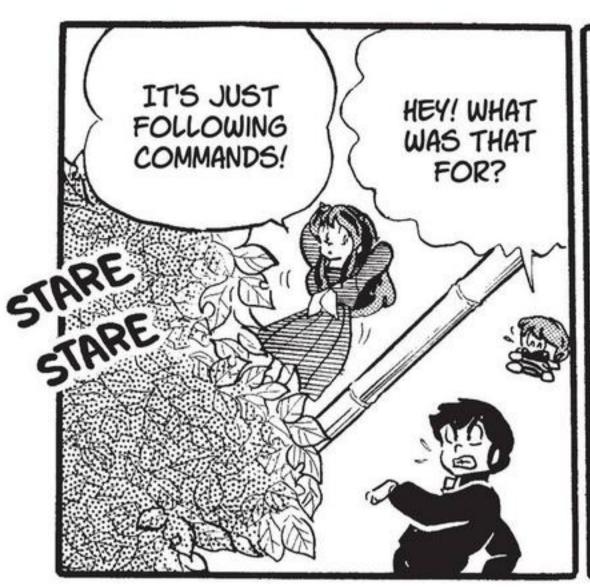




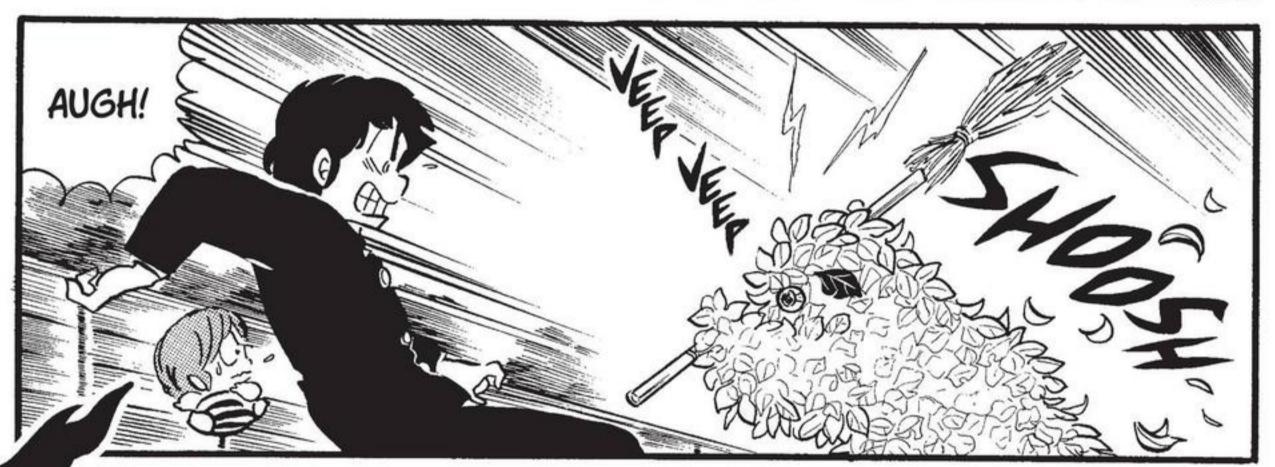


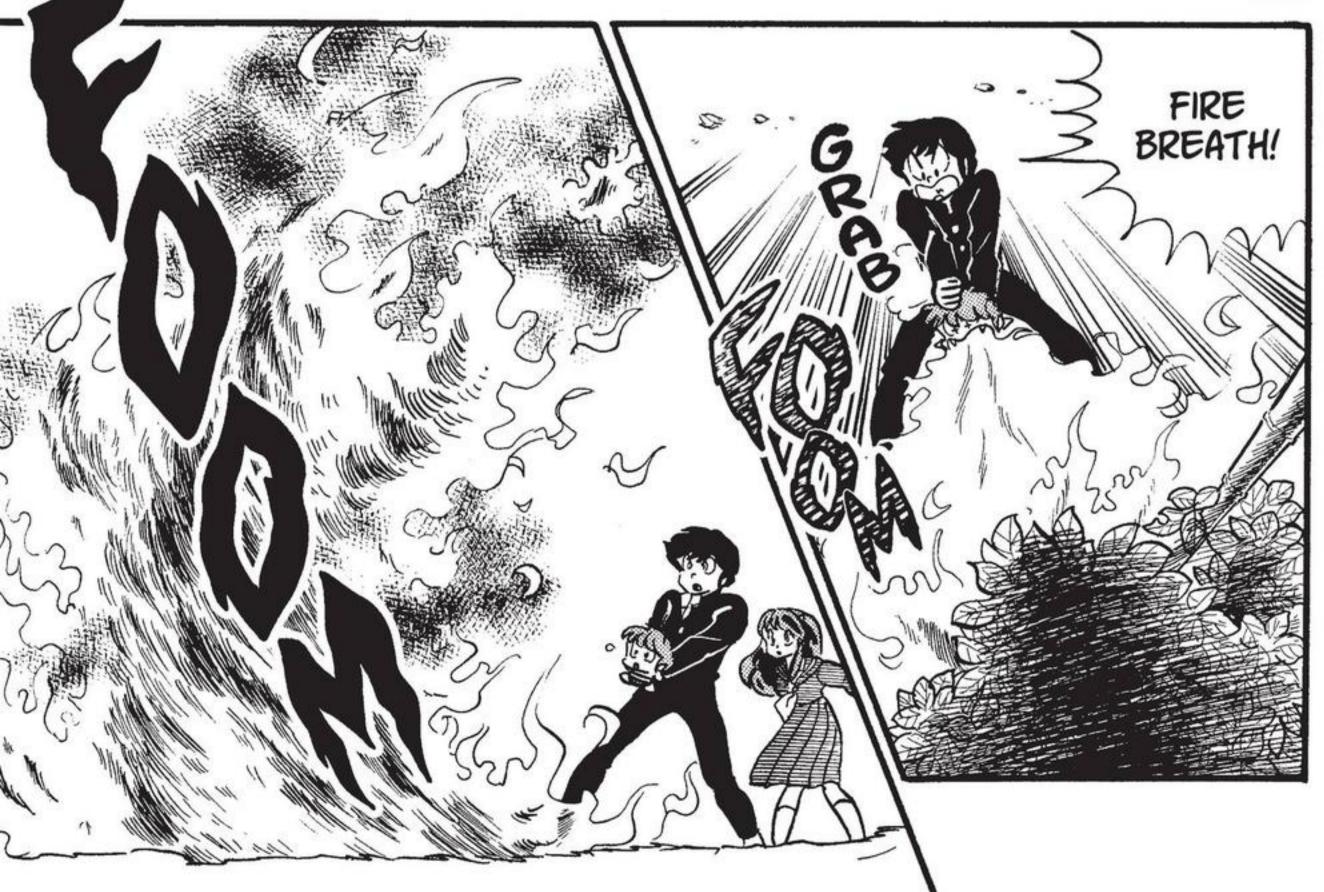


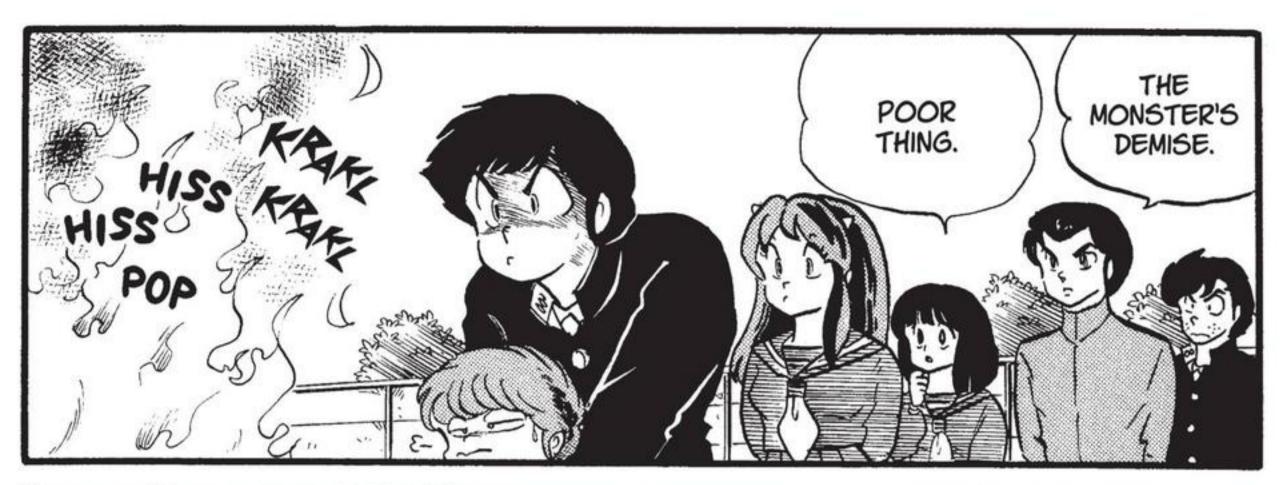


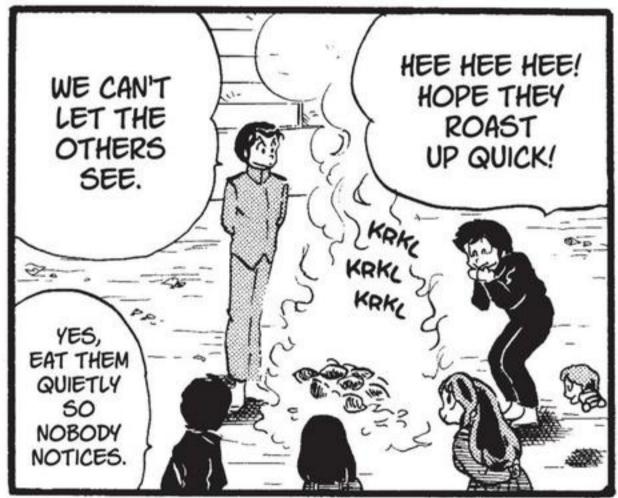




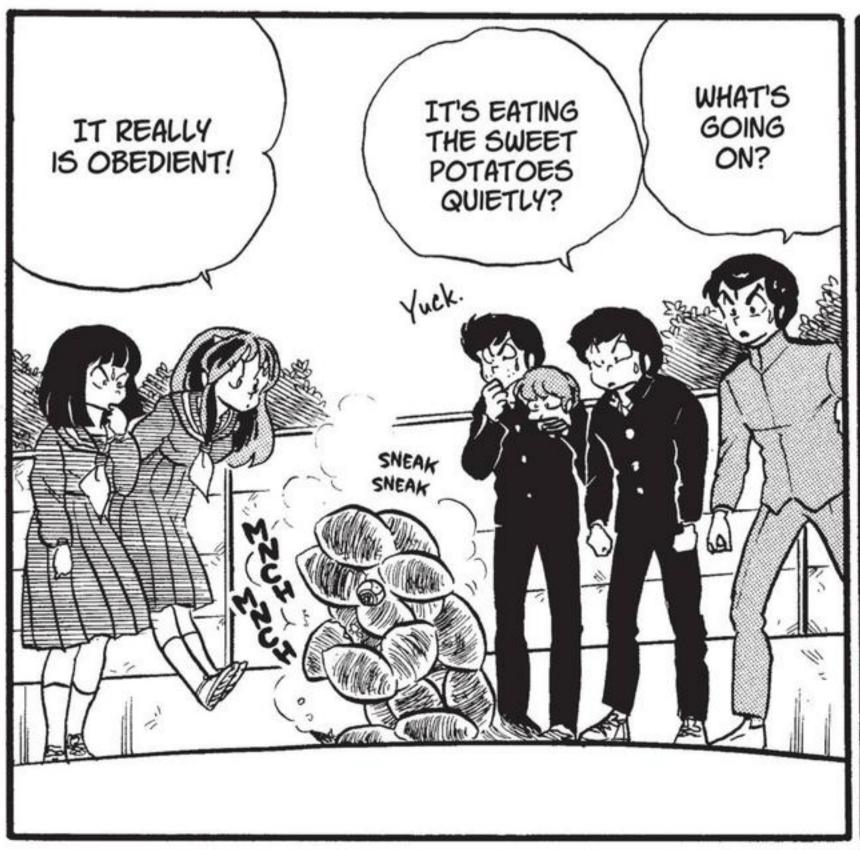








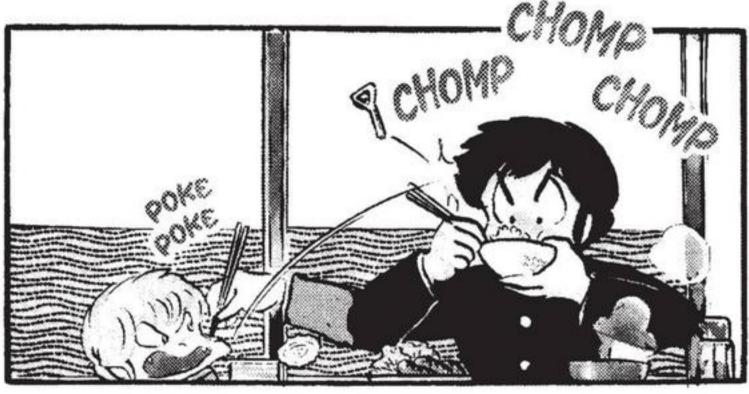




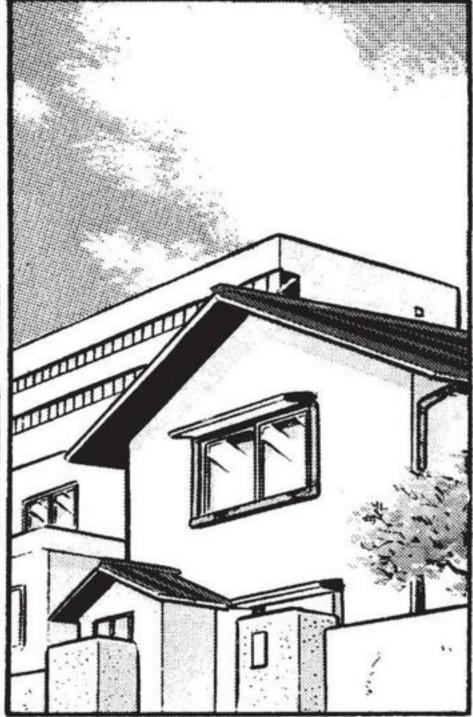


CHAPTER 168 LOVE KNOWS NO BARRIERS





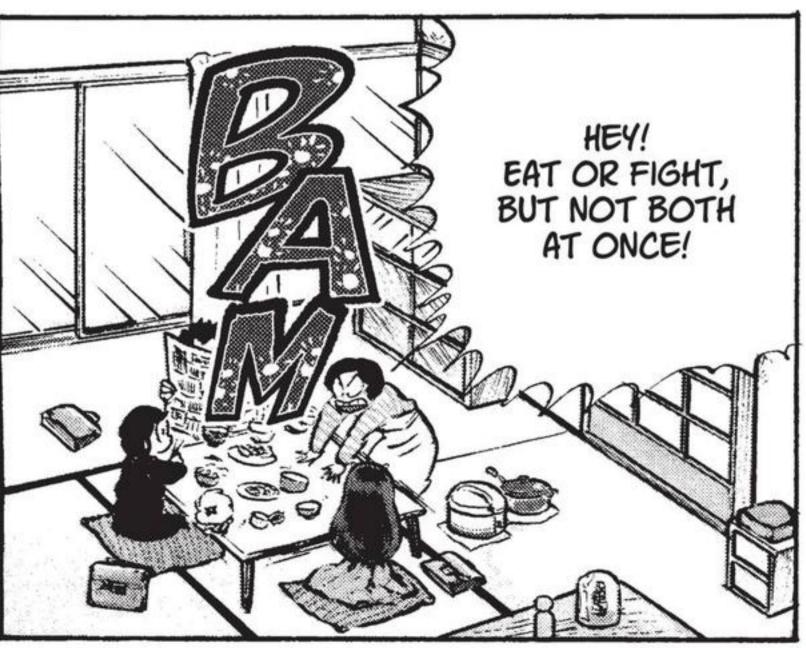


















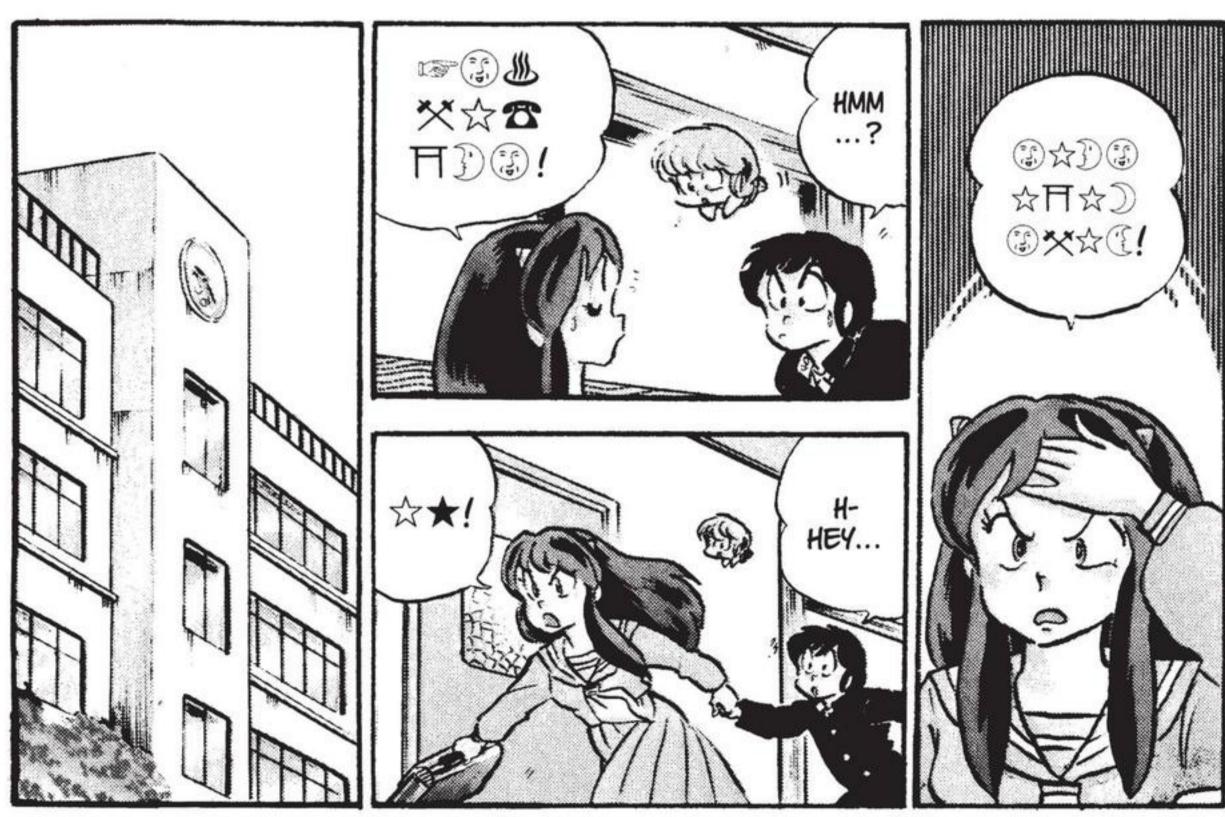




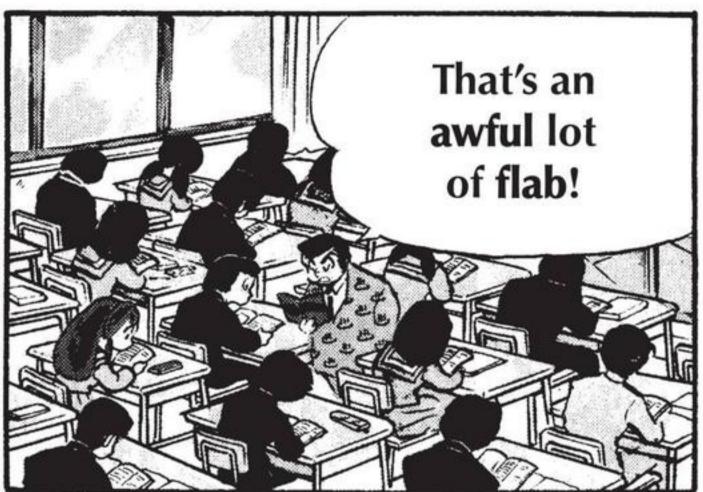










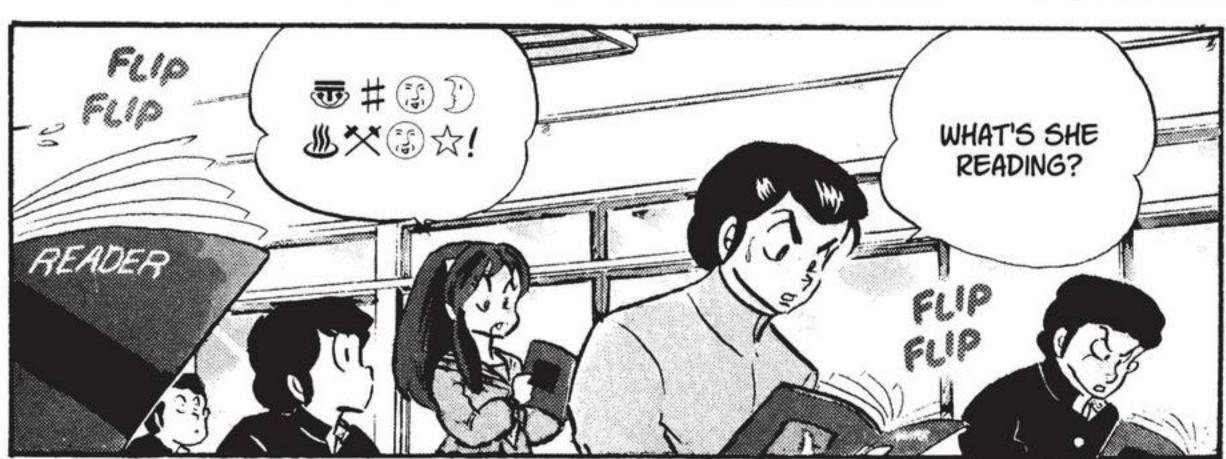






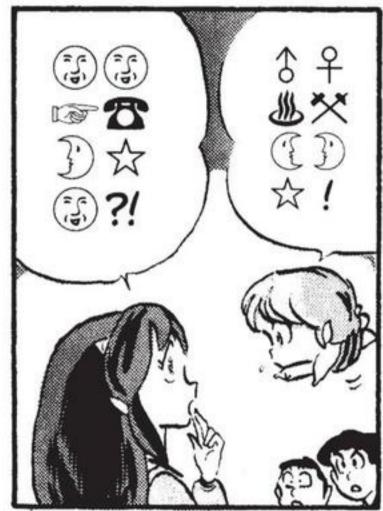




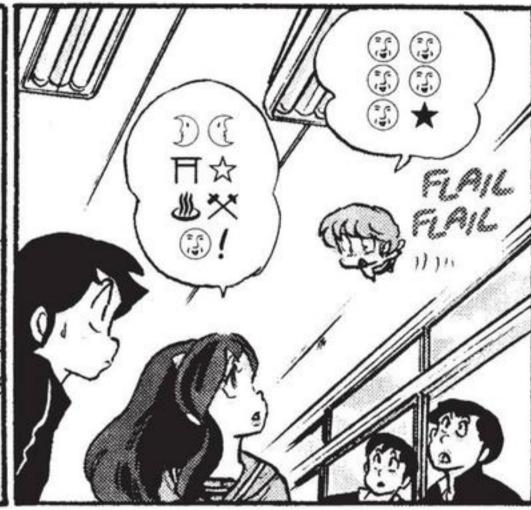








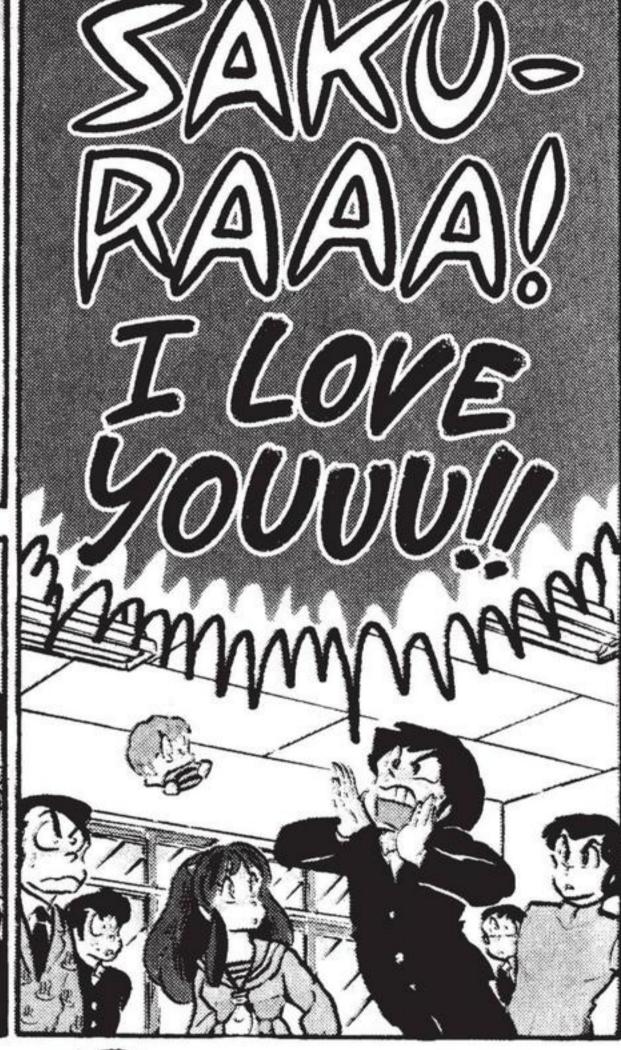














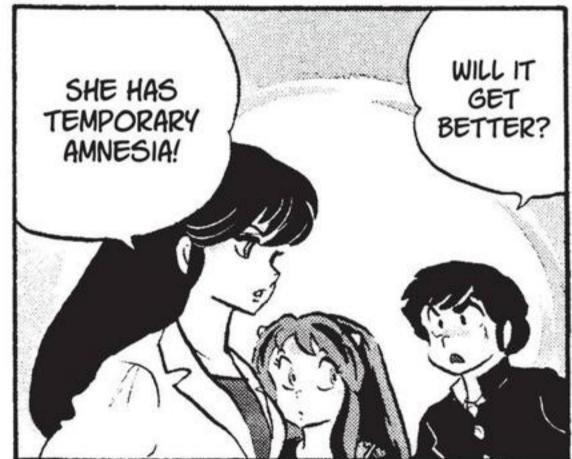










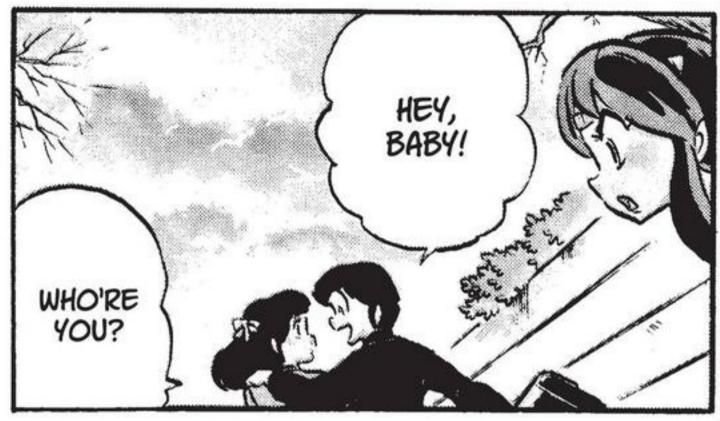




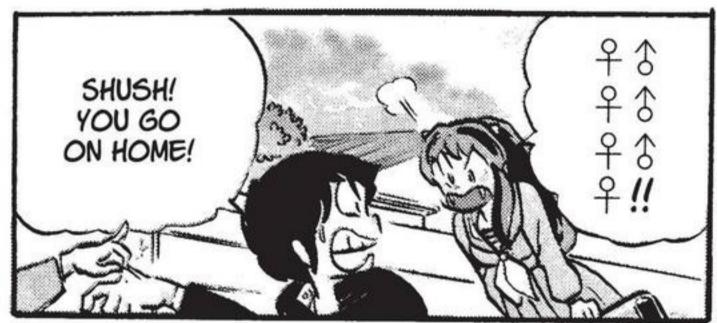


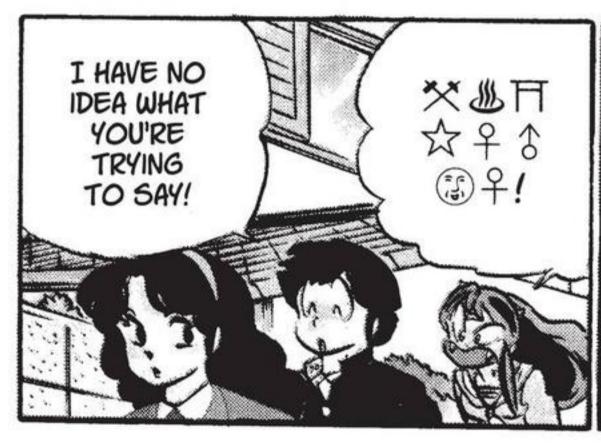


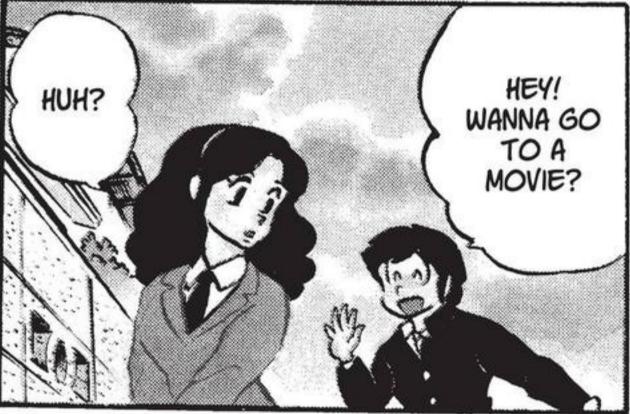
















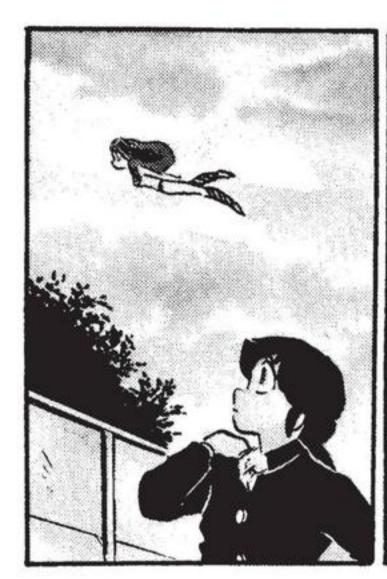


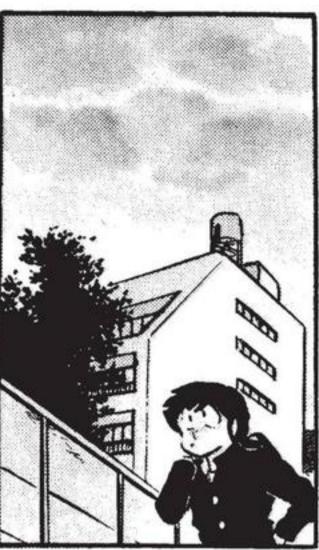








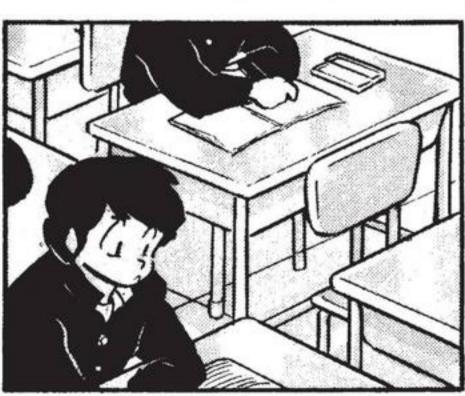


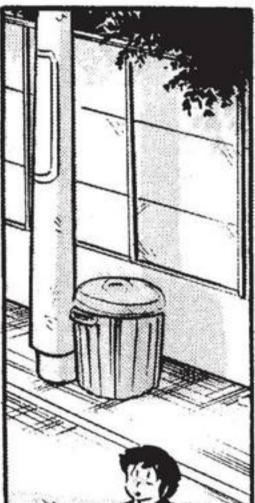




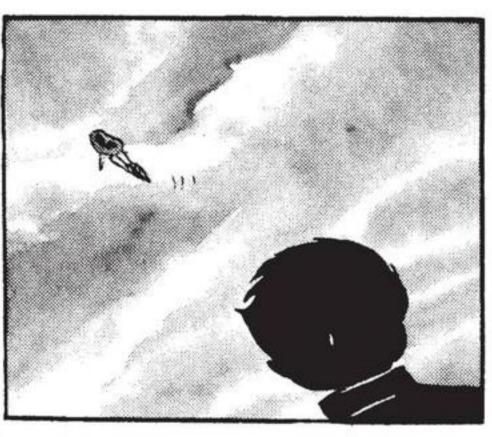


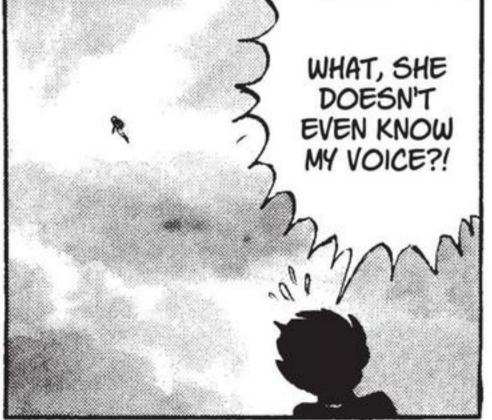










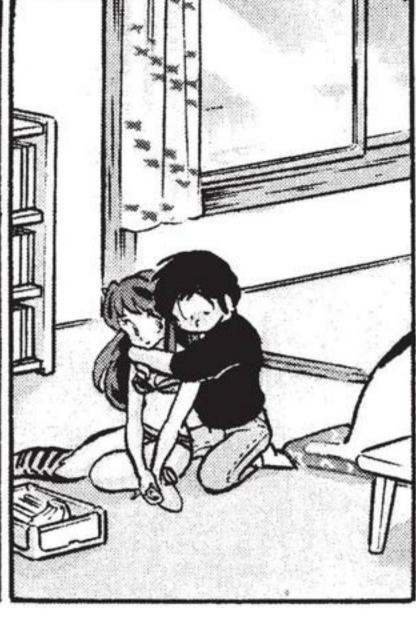






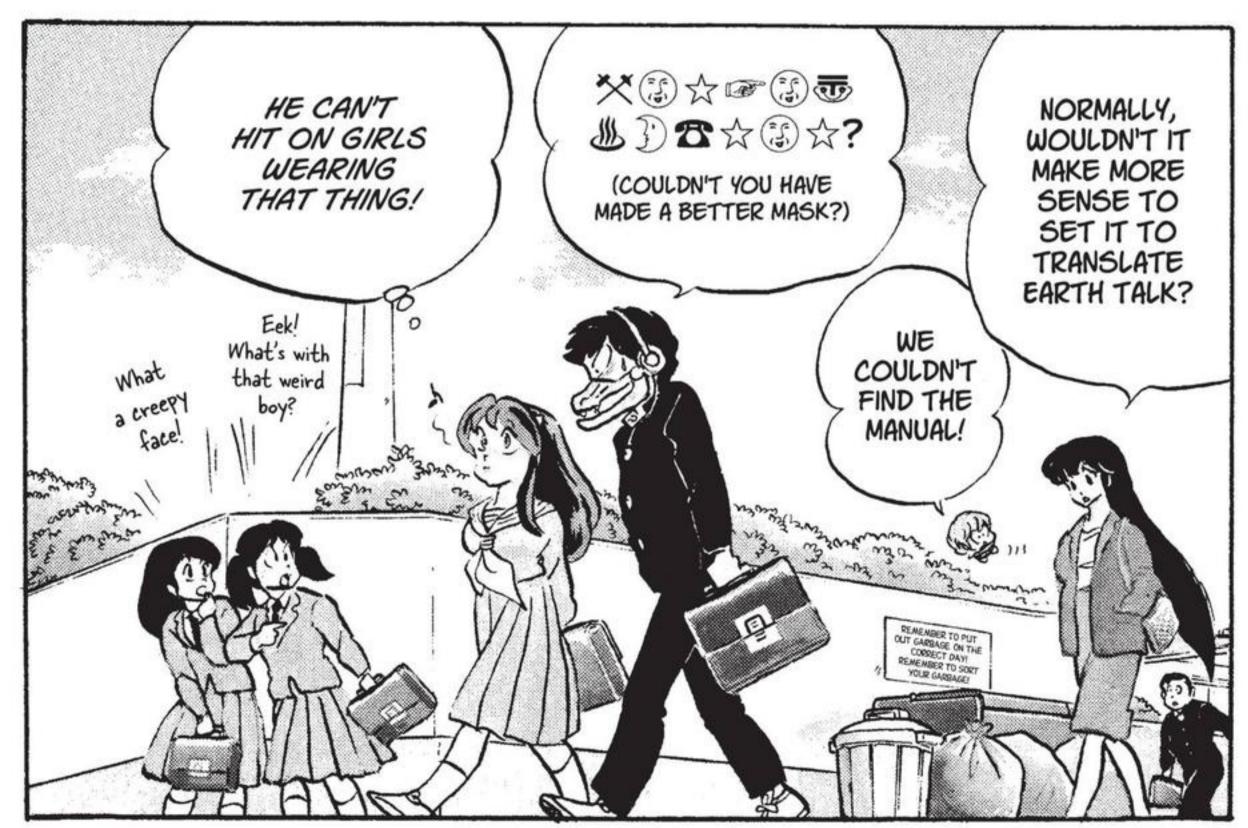






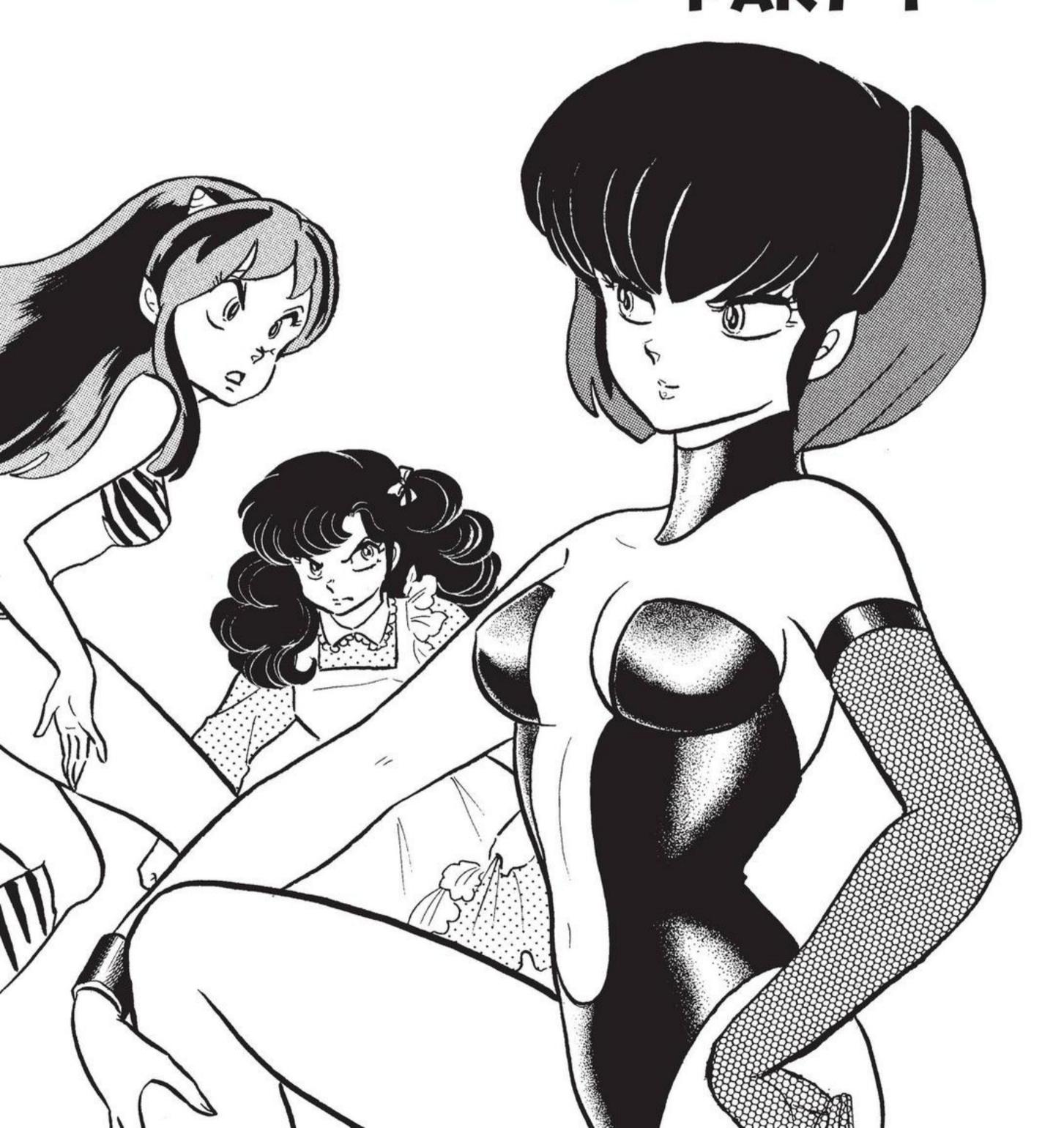






CHAPTER 17: LOVER THIEF

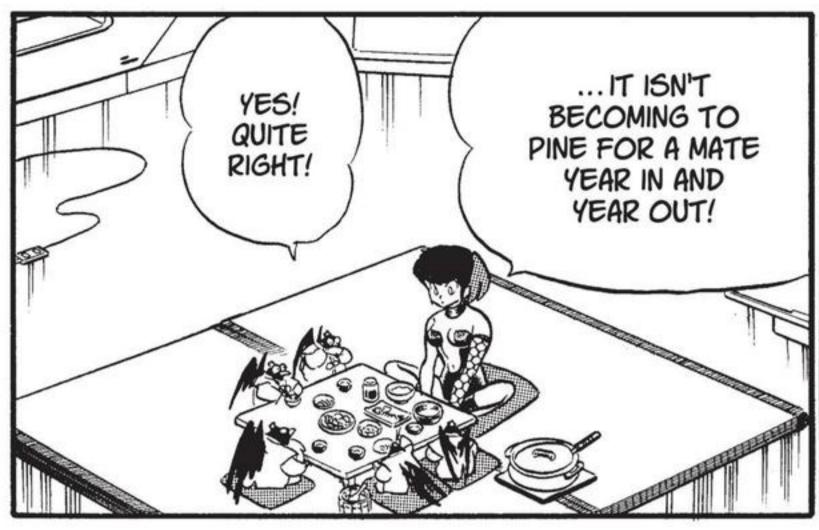
- PART 1 -







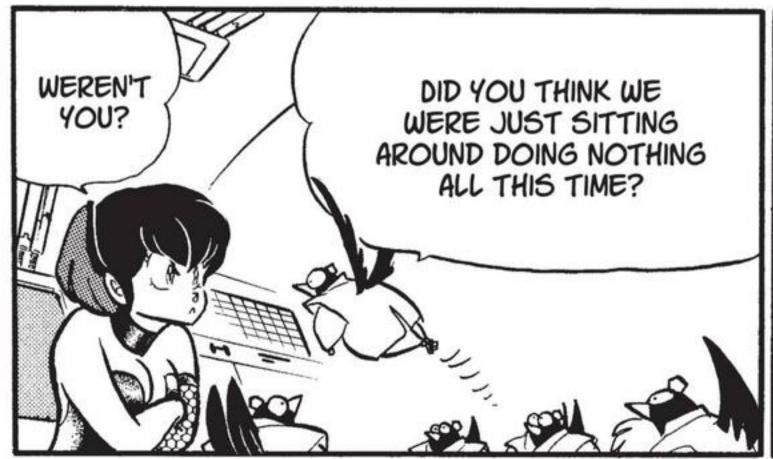




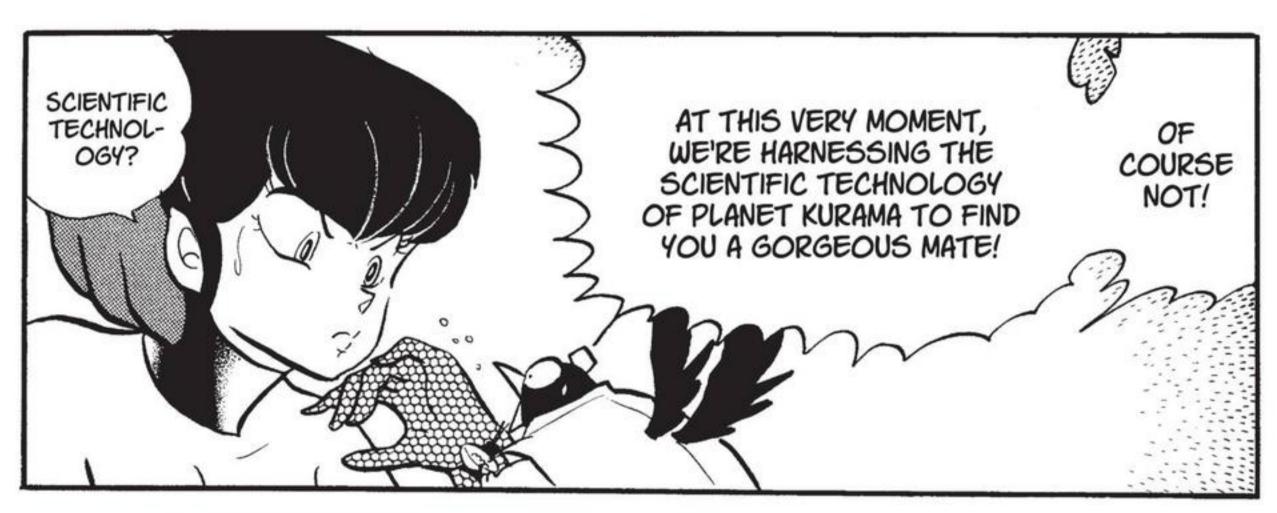


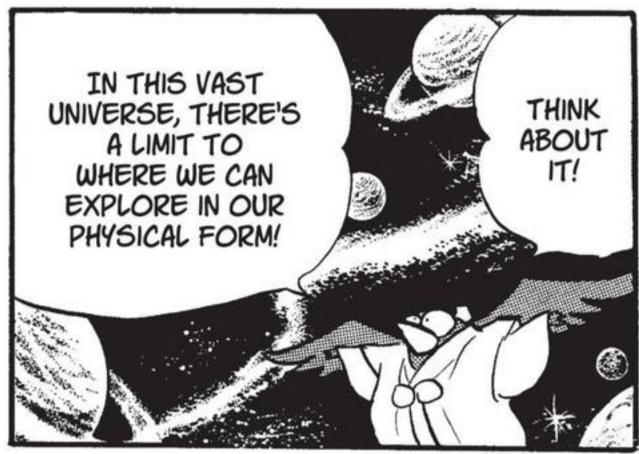


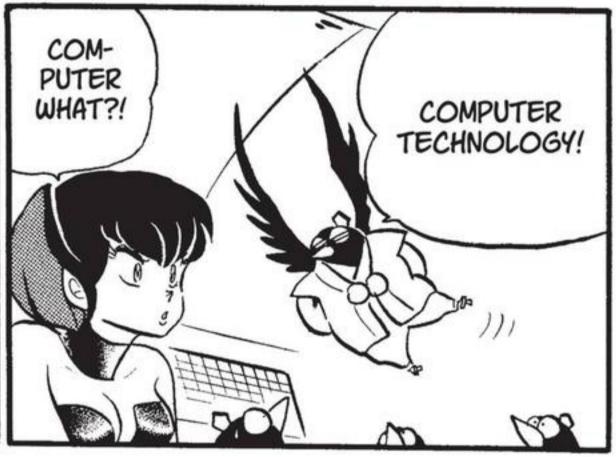


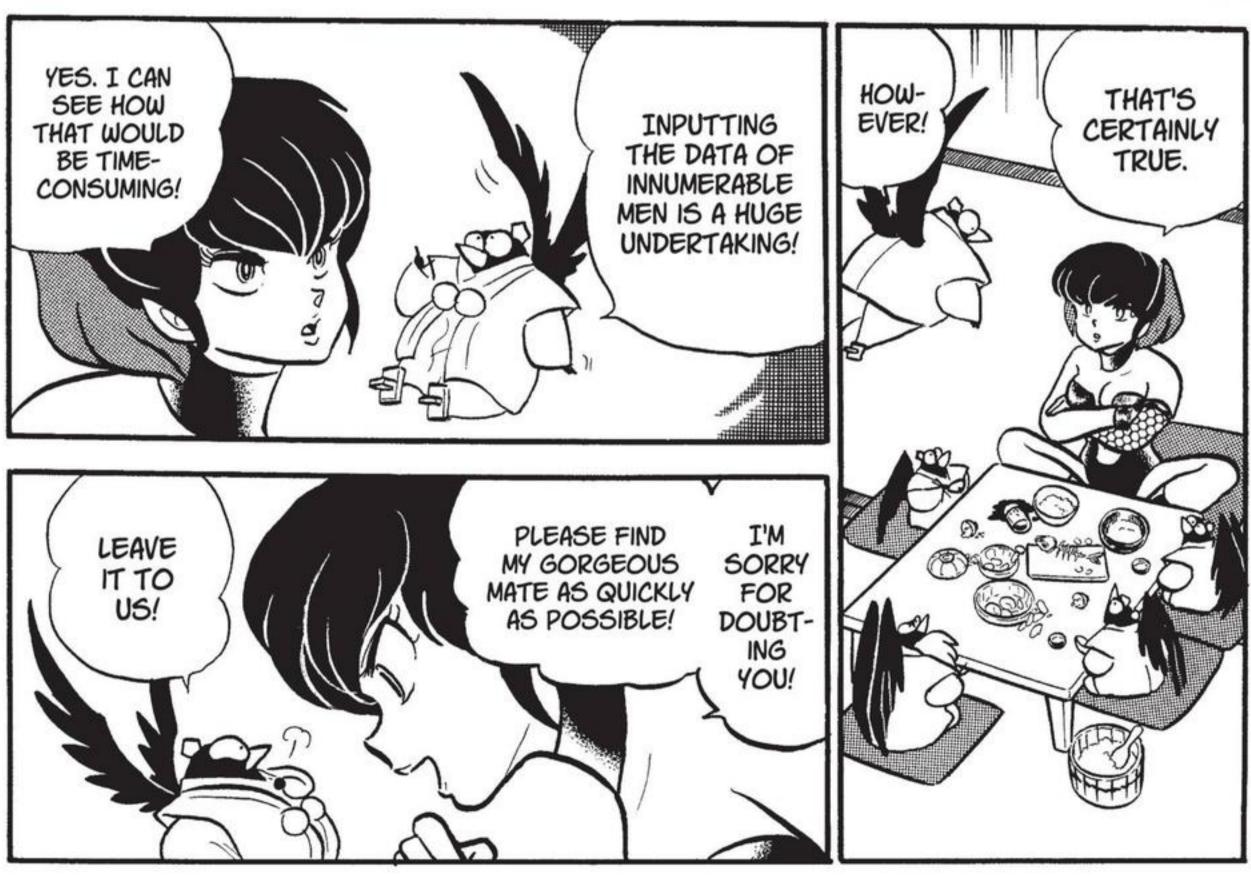








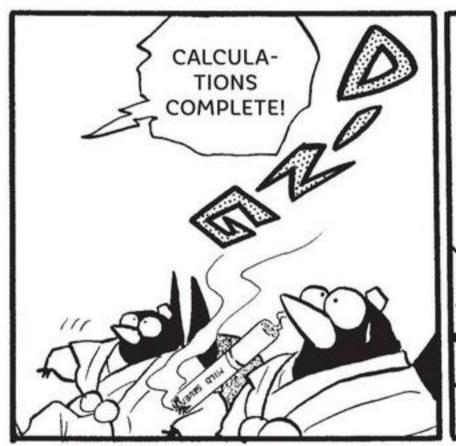




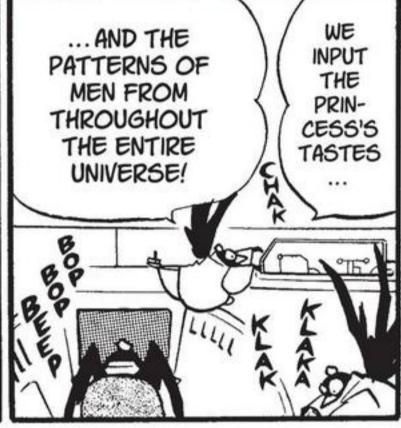




































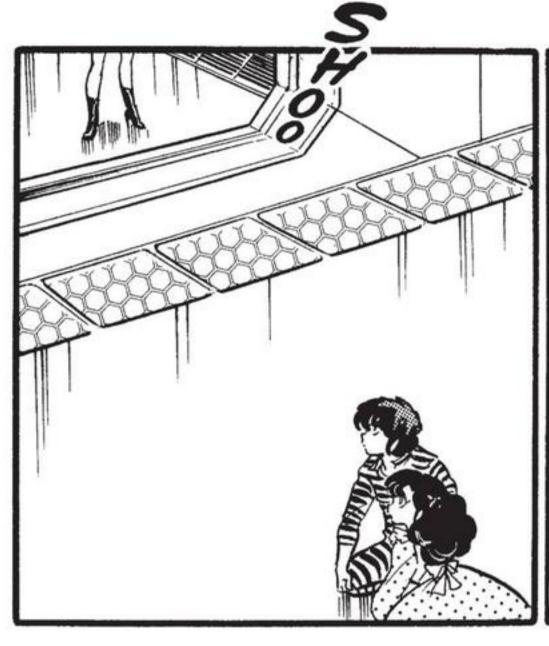






































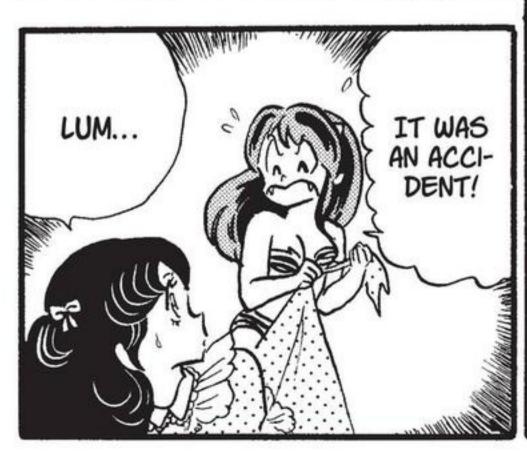


















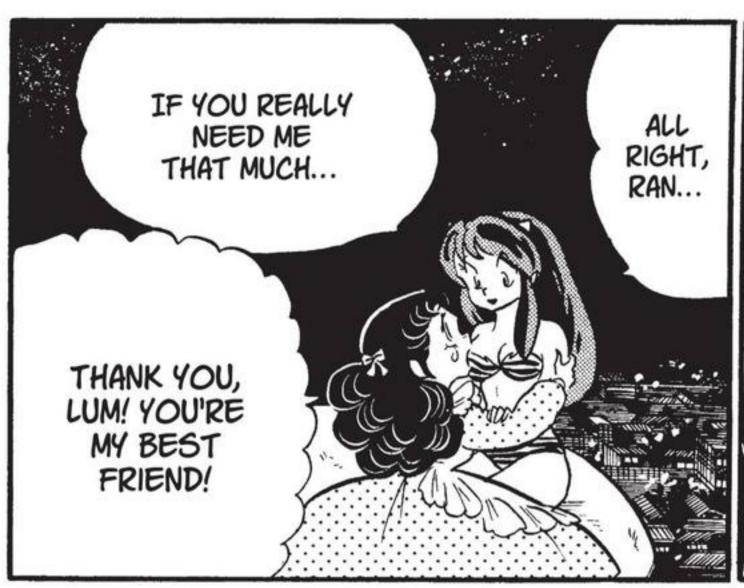






























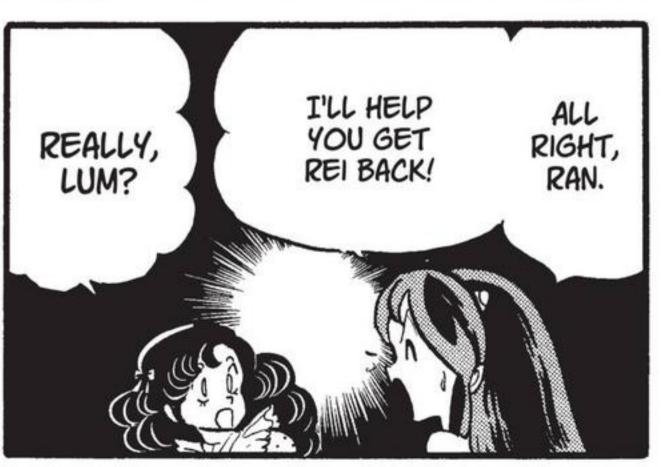


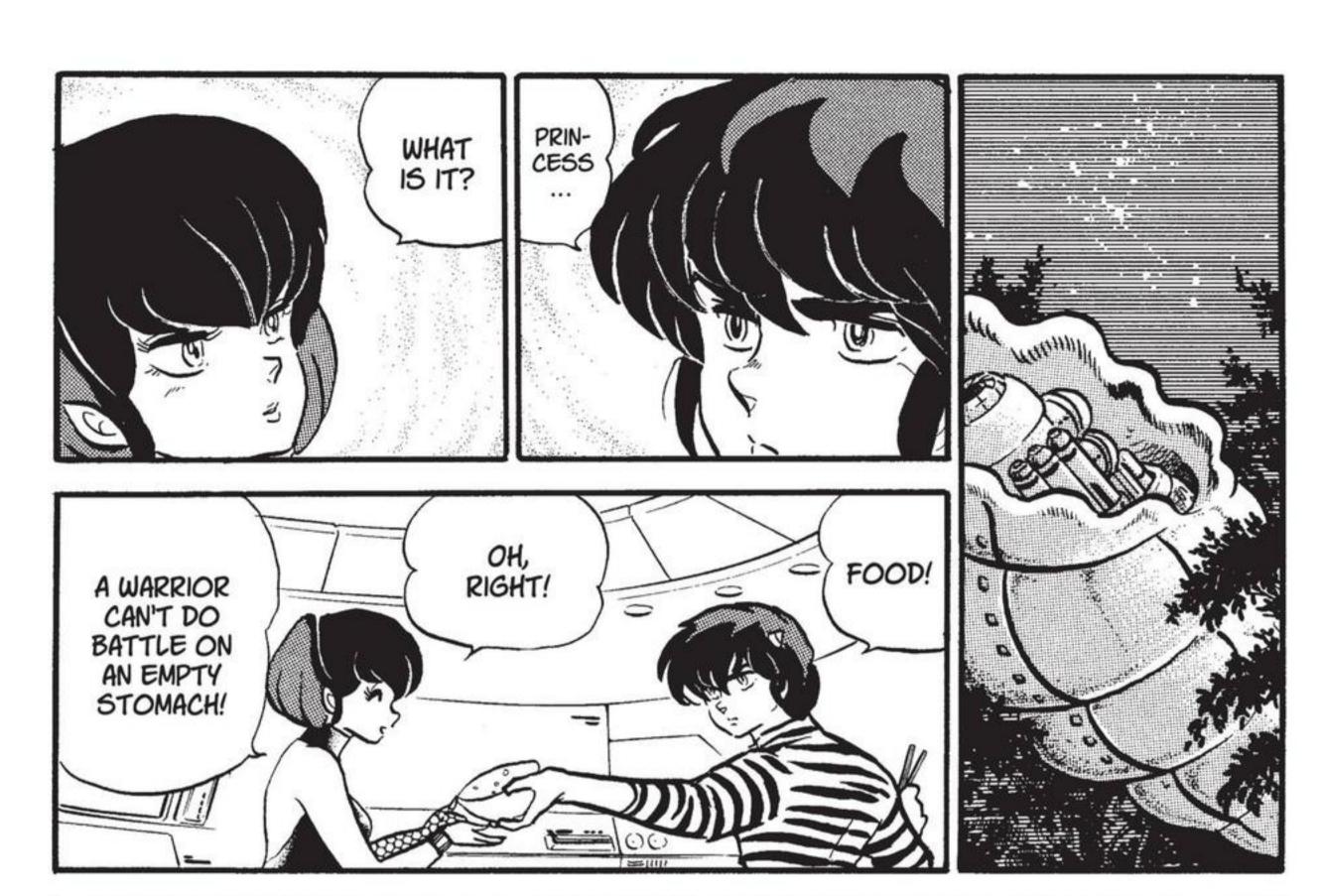














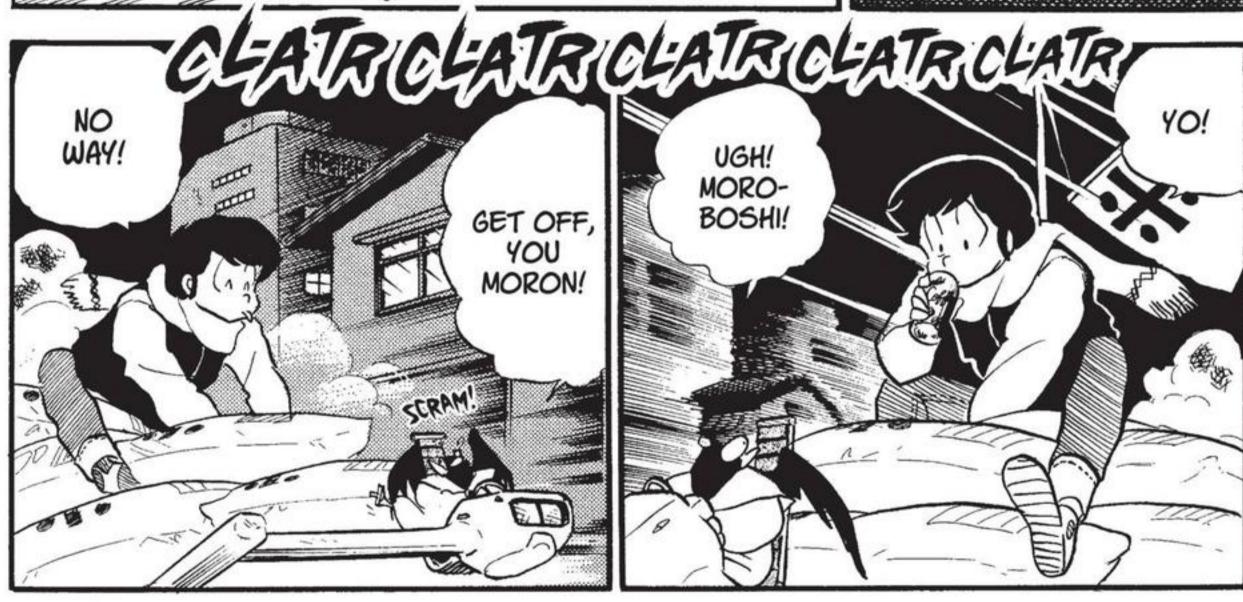
CHAPTER 18: LOVER_THIEF











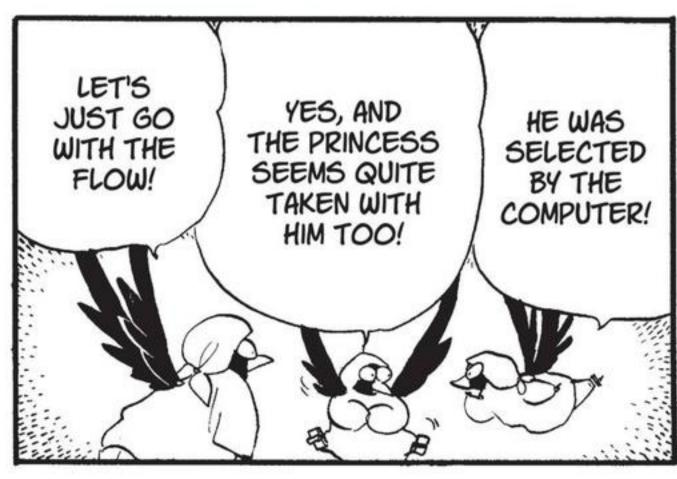






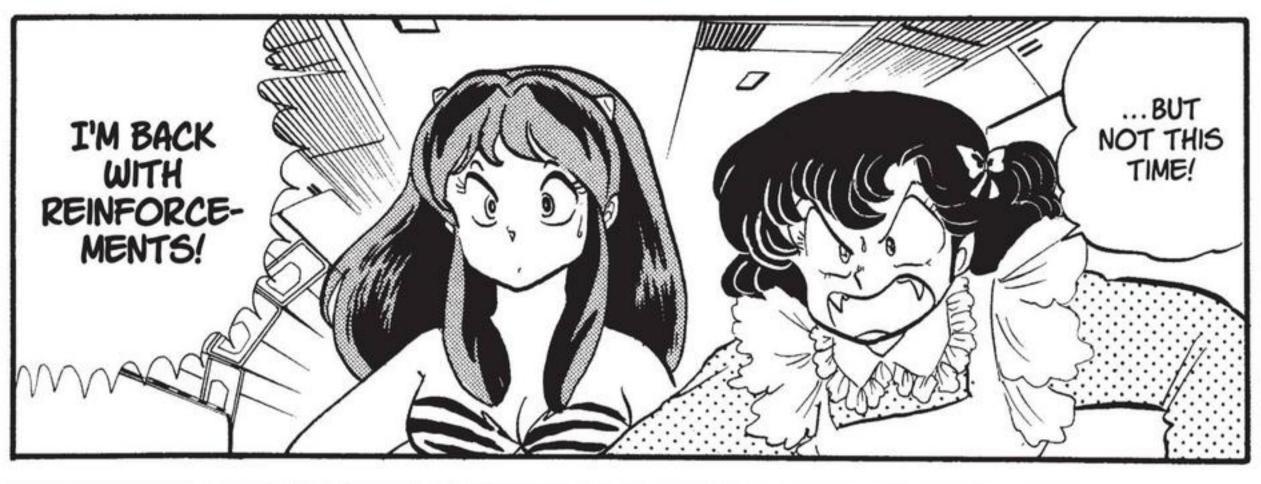


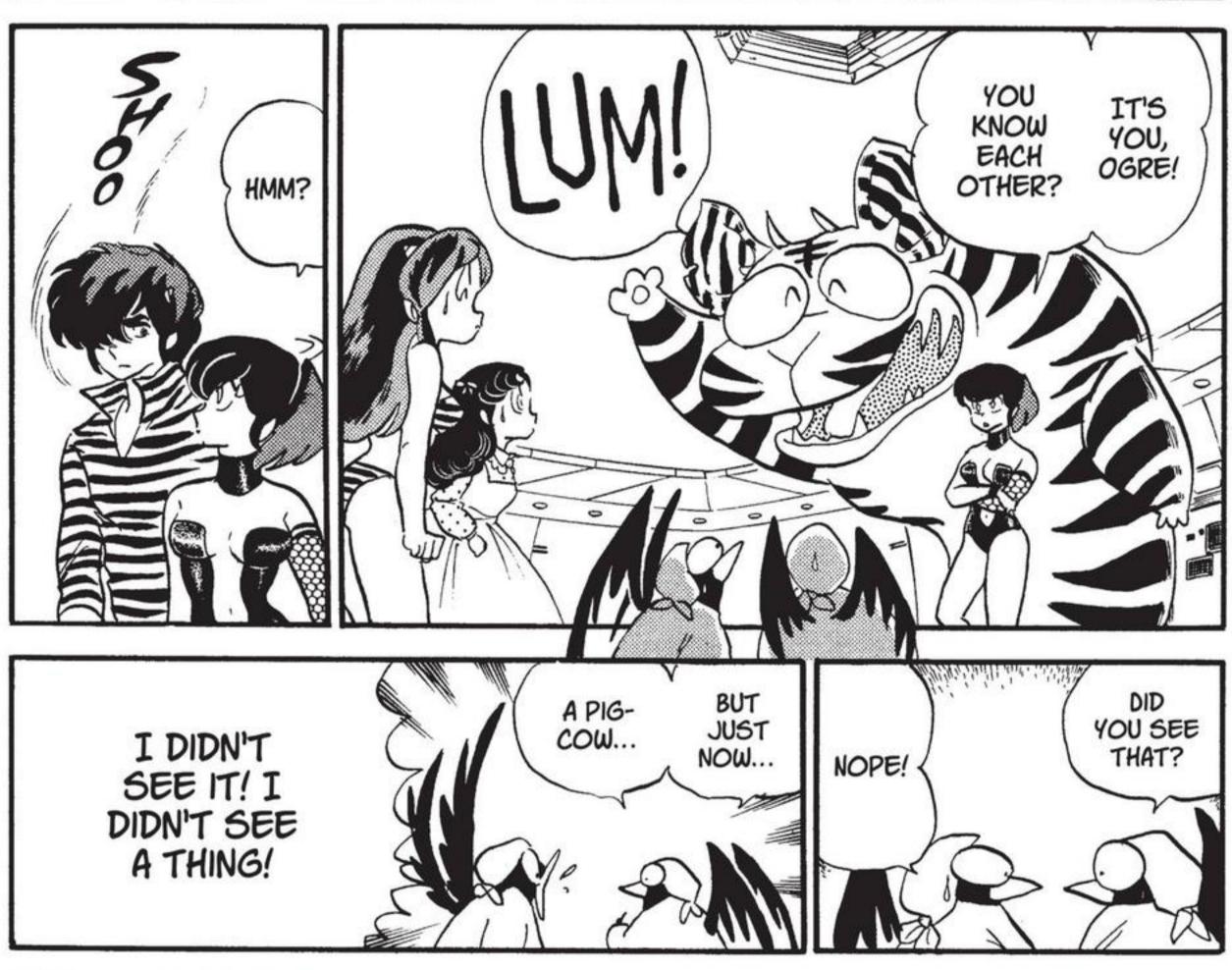






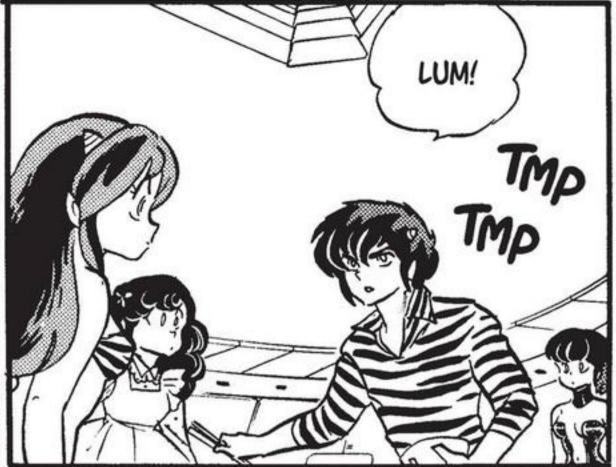














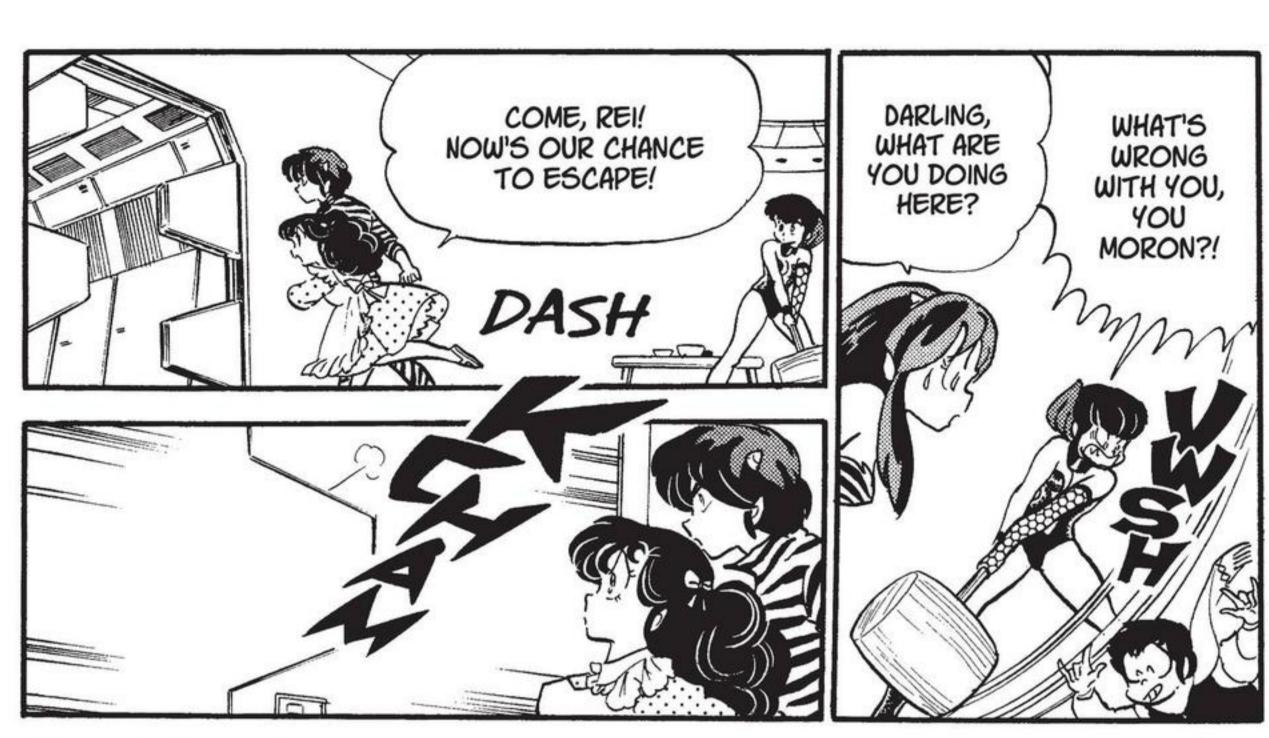




































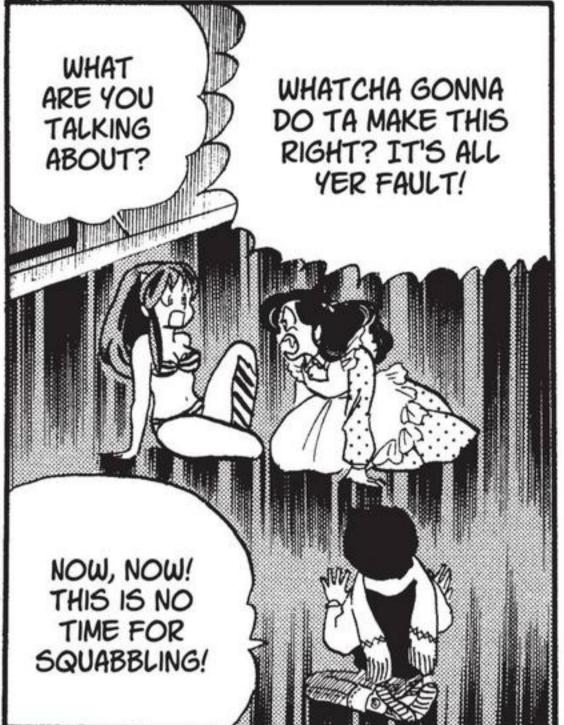


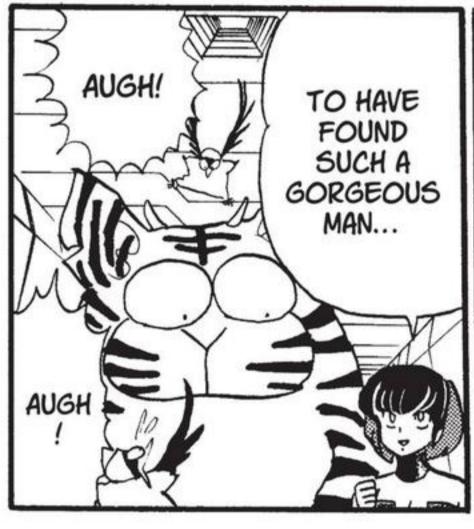


















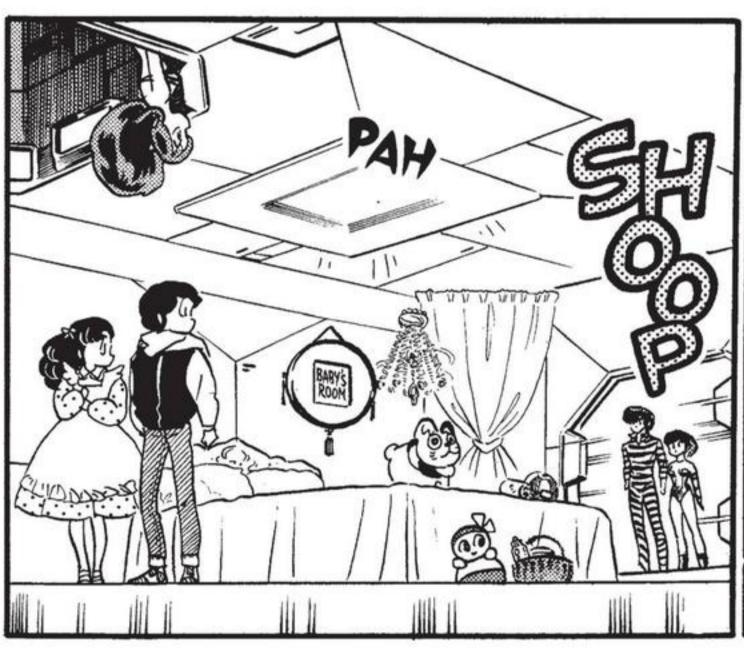








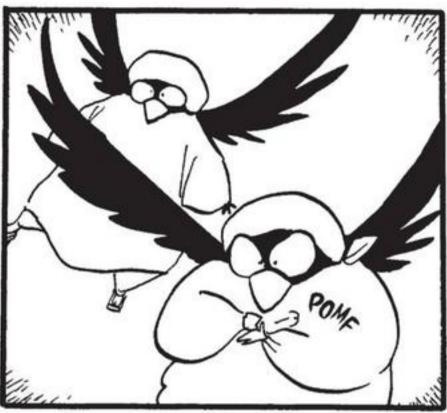












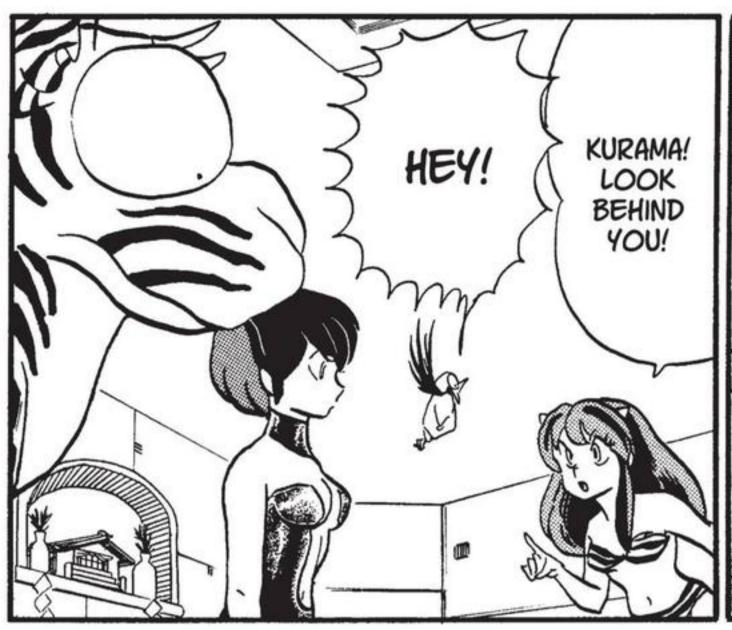




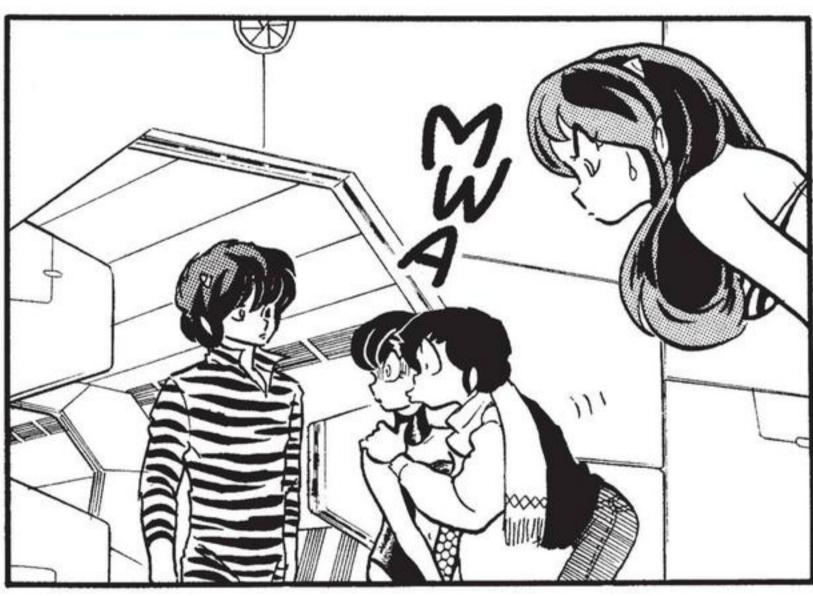




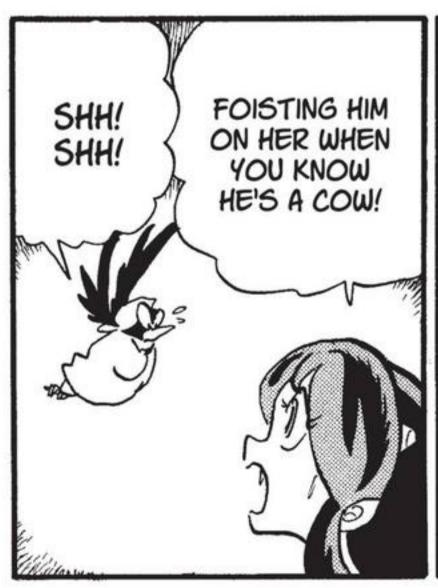


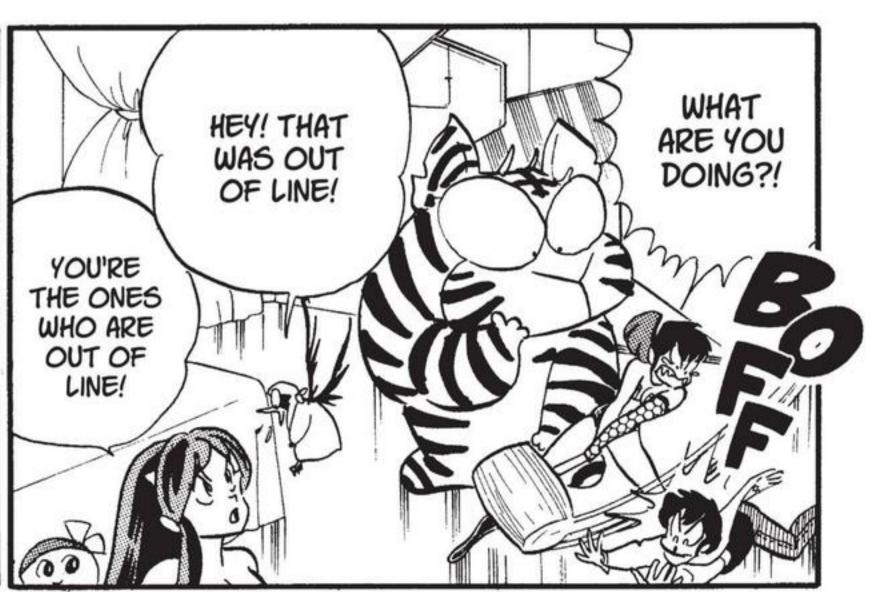






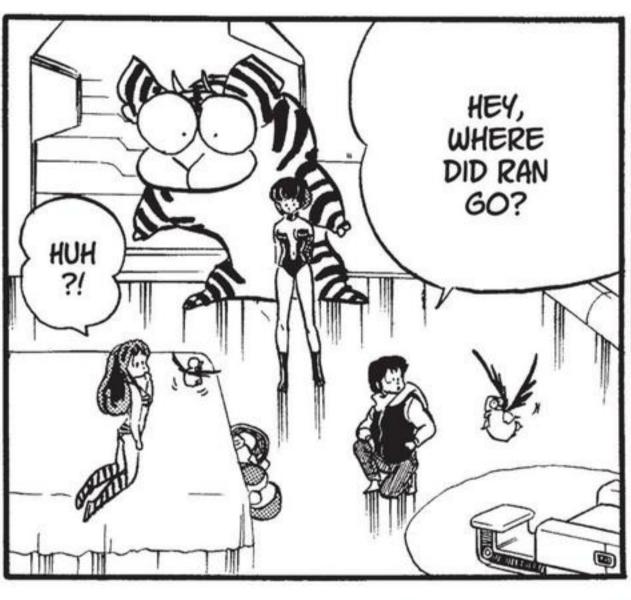








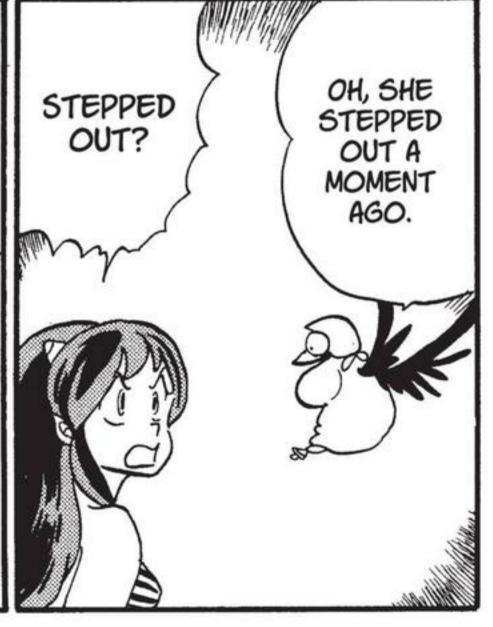








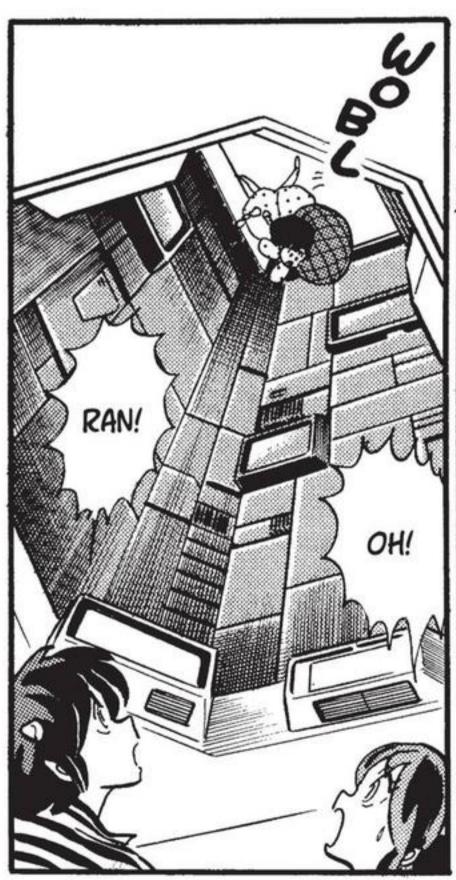










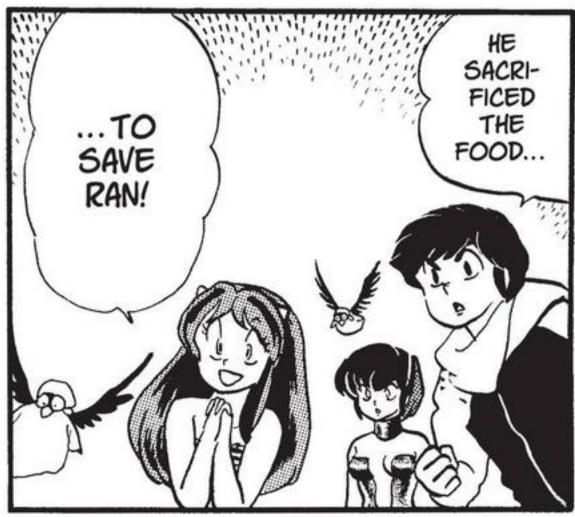


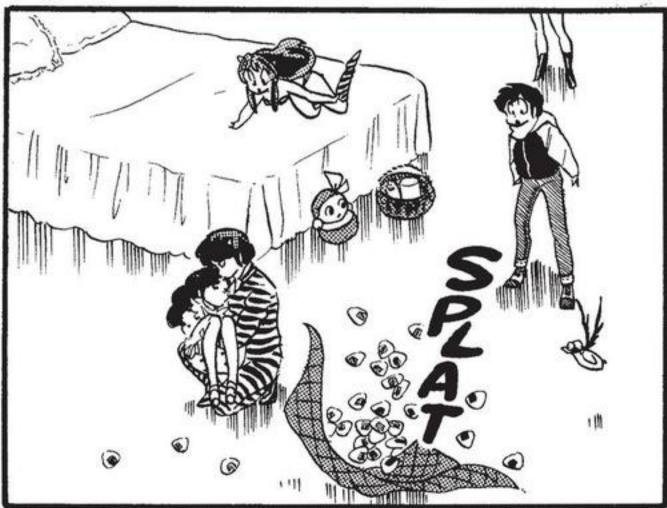












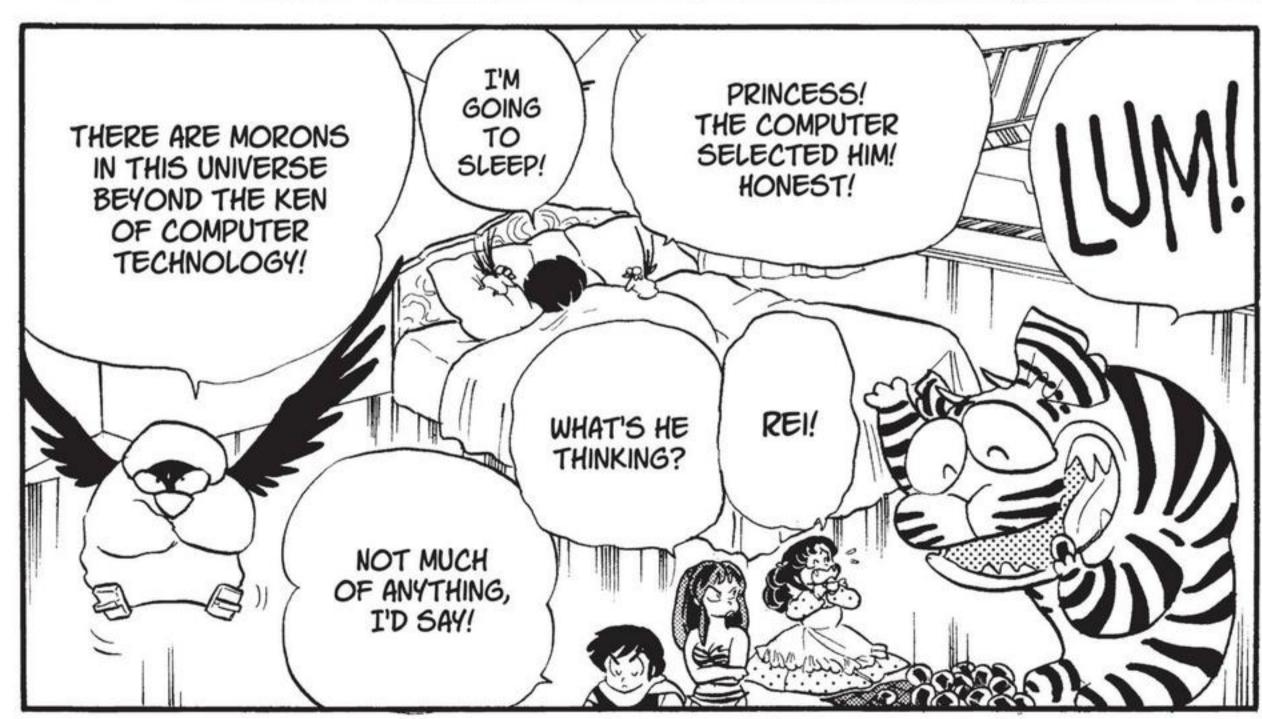












CHAPTER 19: WHEN LOVE STRIKES



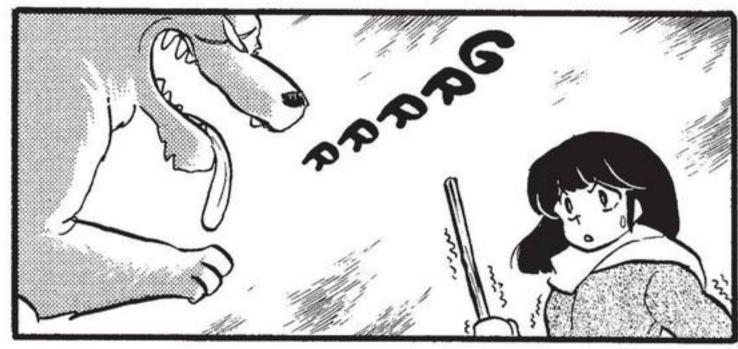


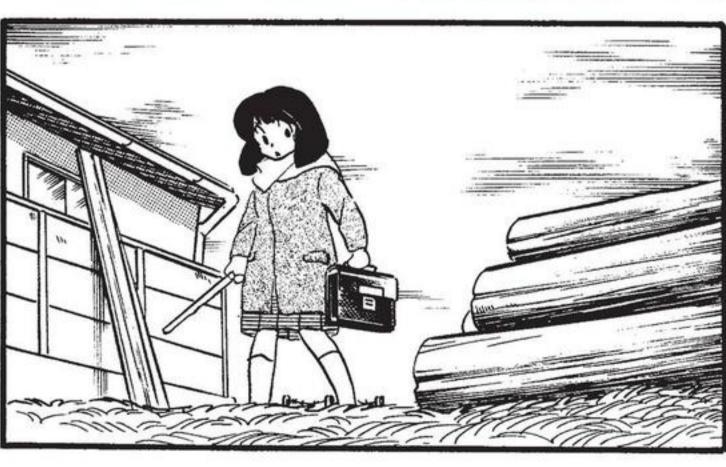
















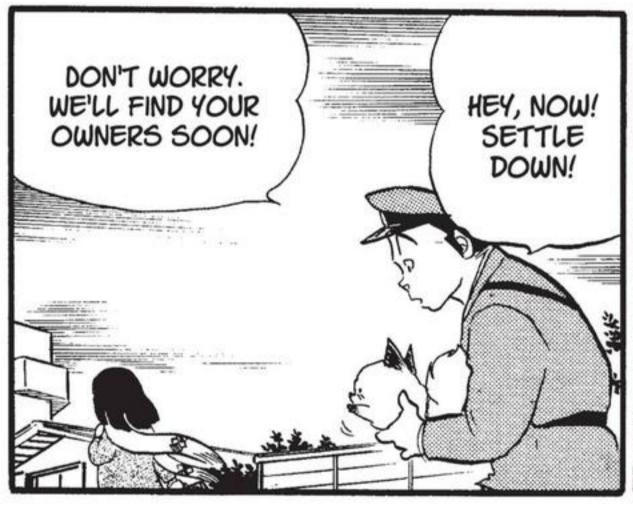






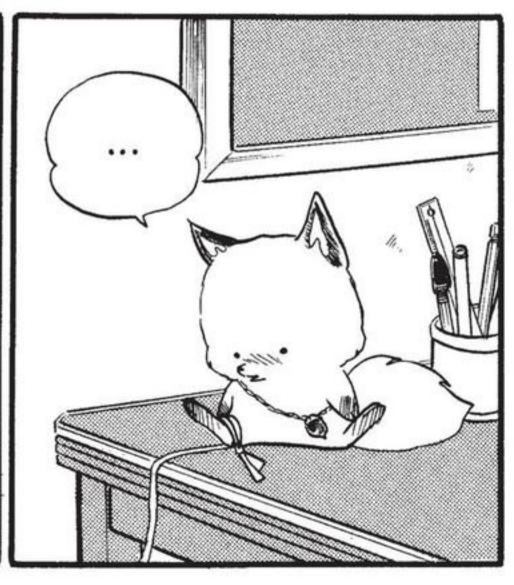


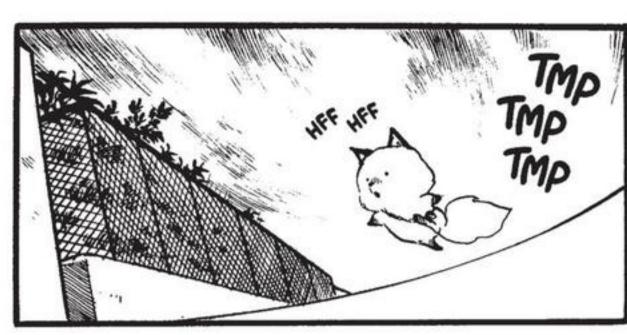


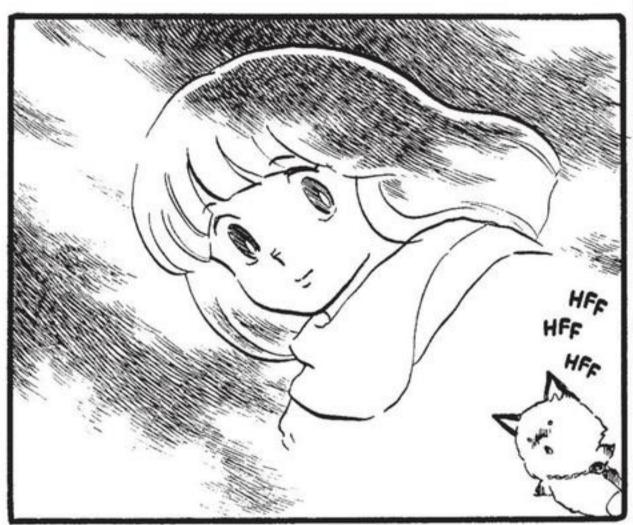




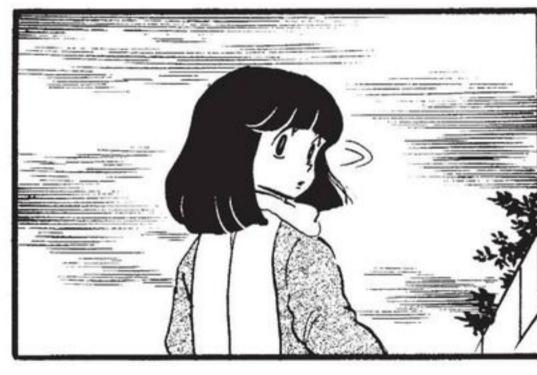








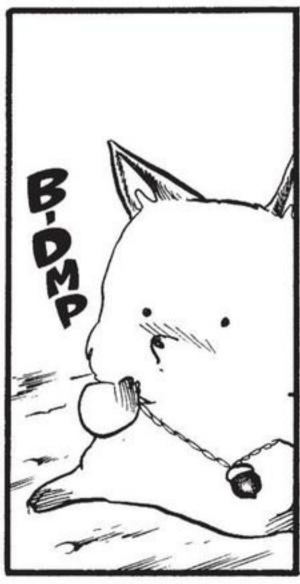








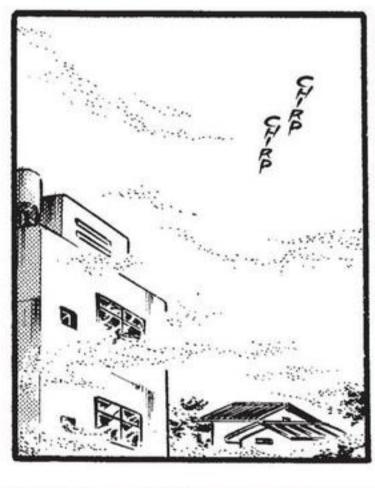




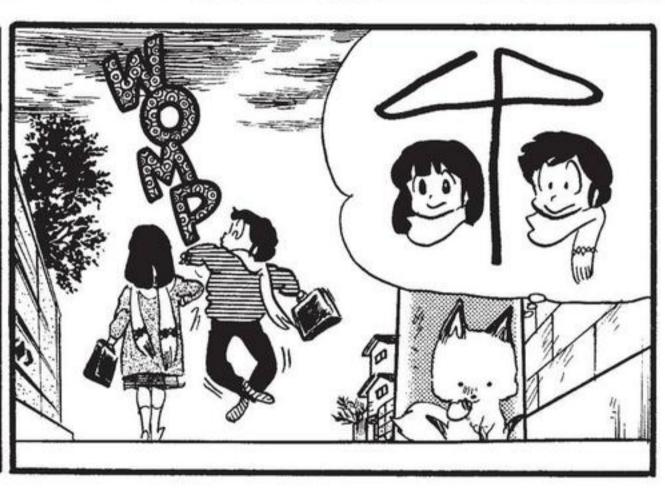




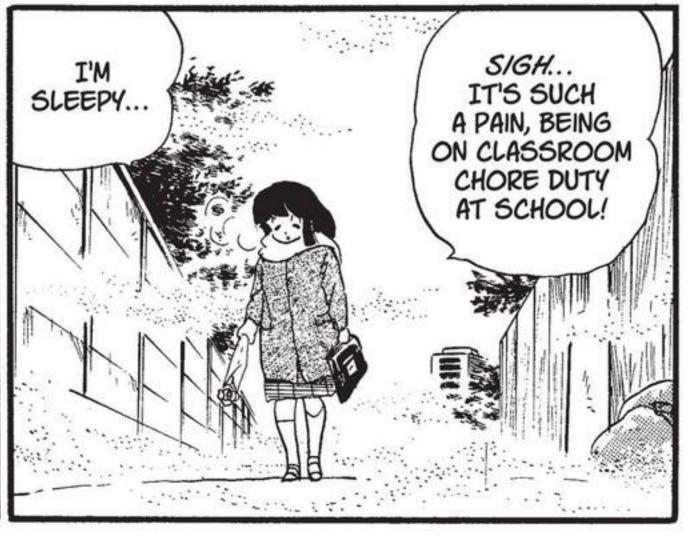








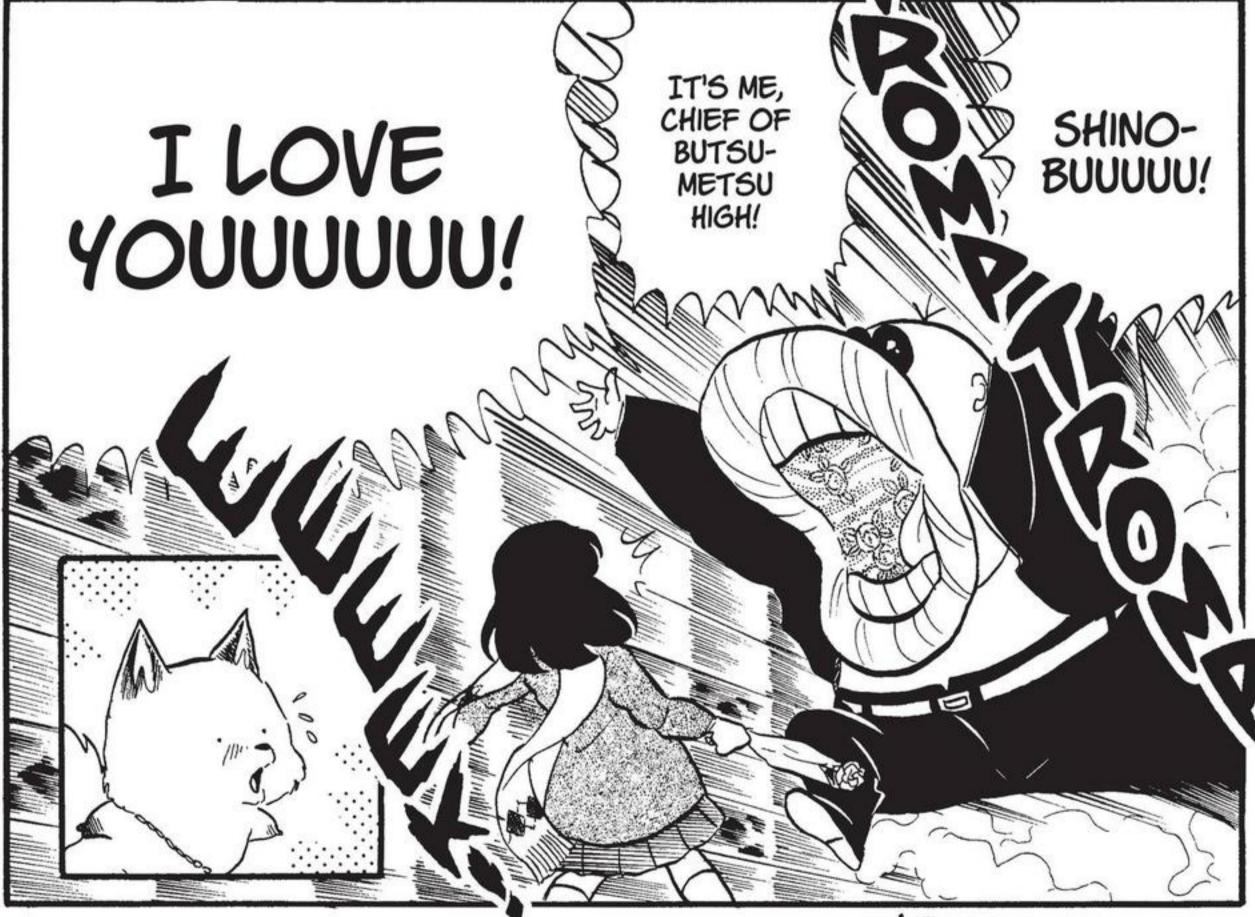




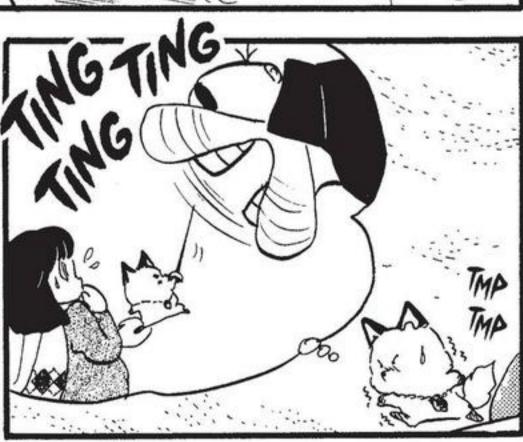




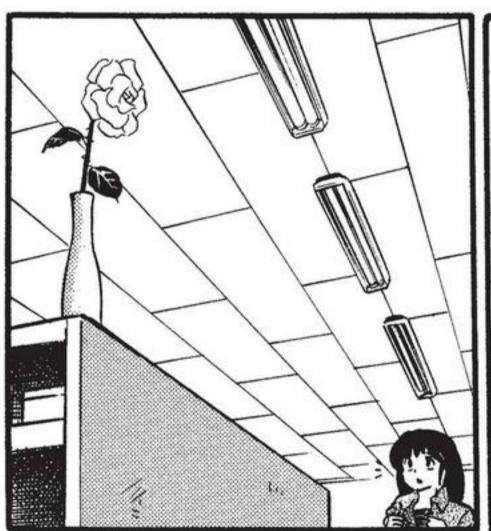




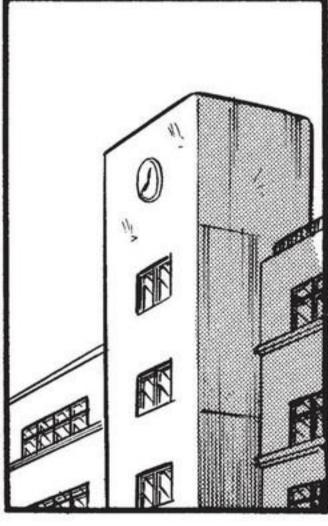






















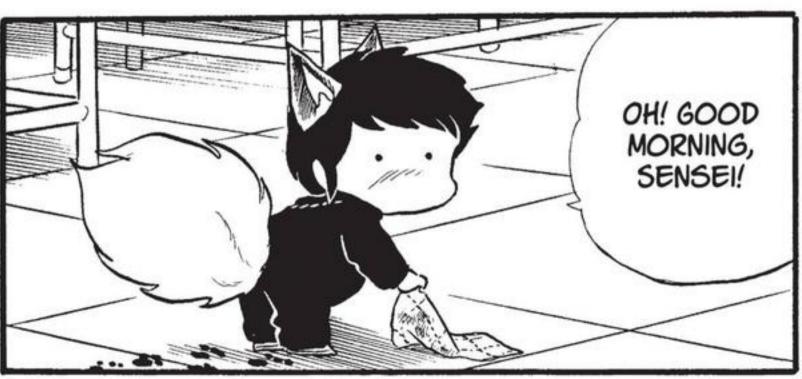




















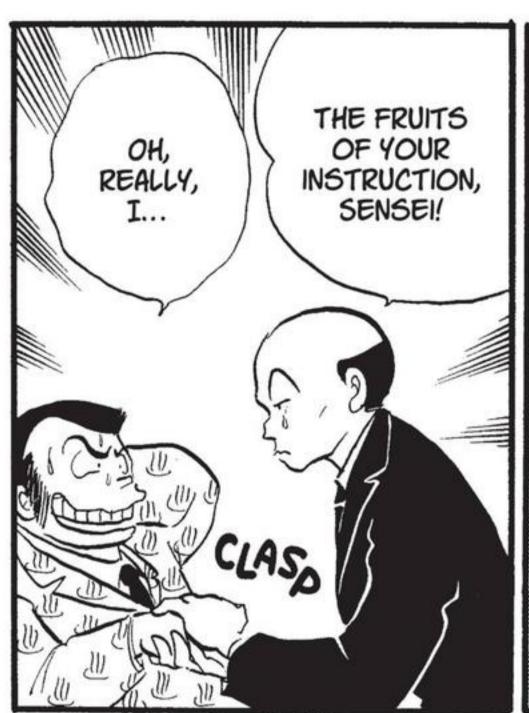




















WHAT'S

GOING ON?



















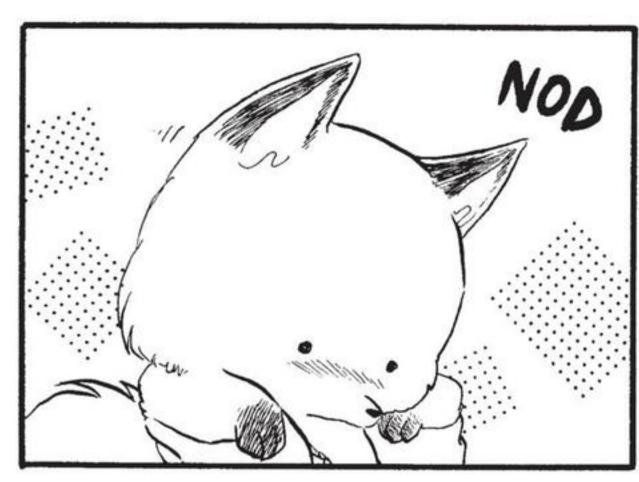


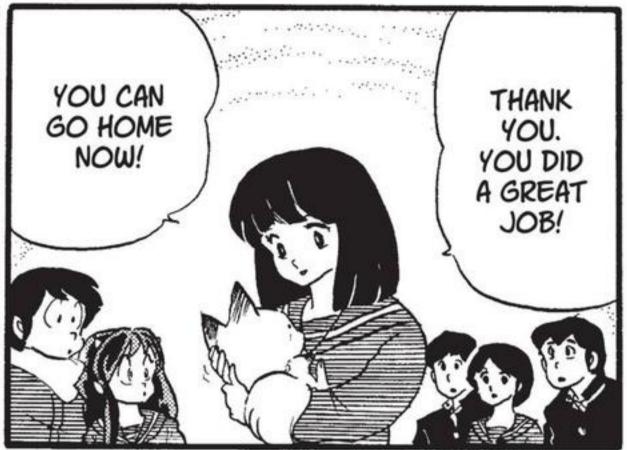


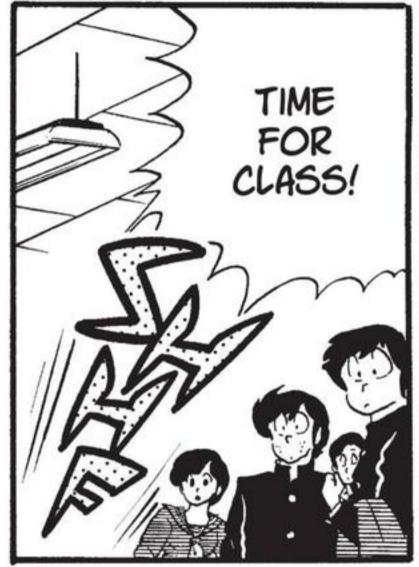




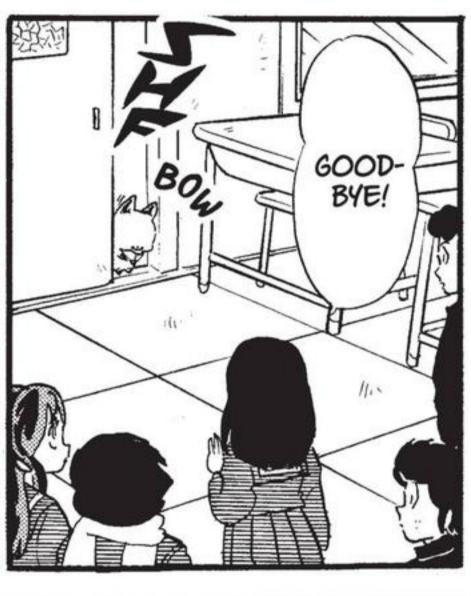


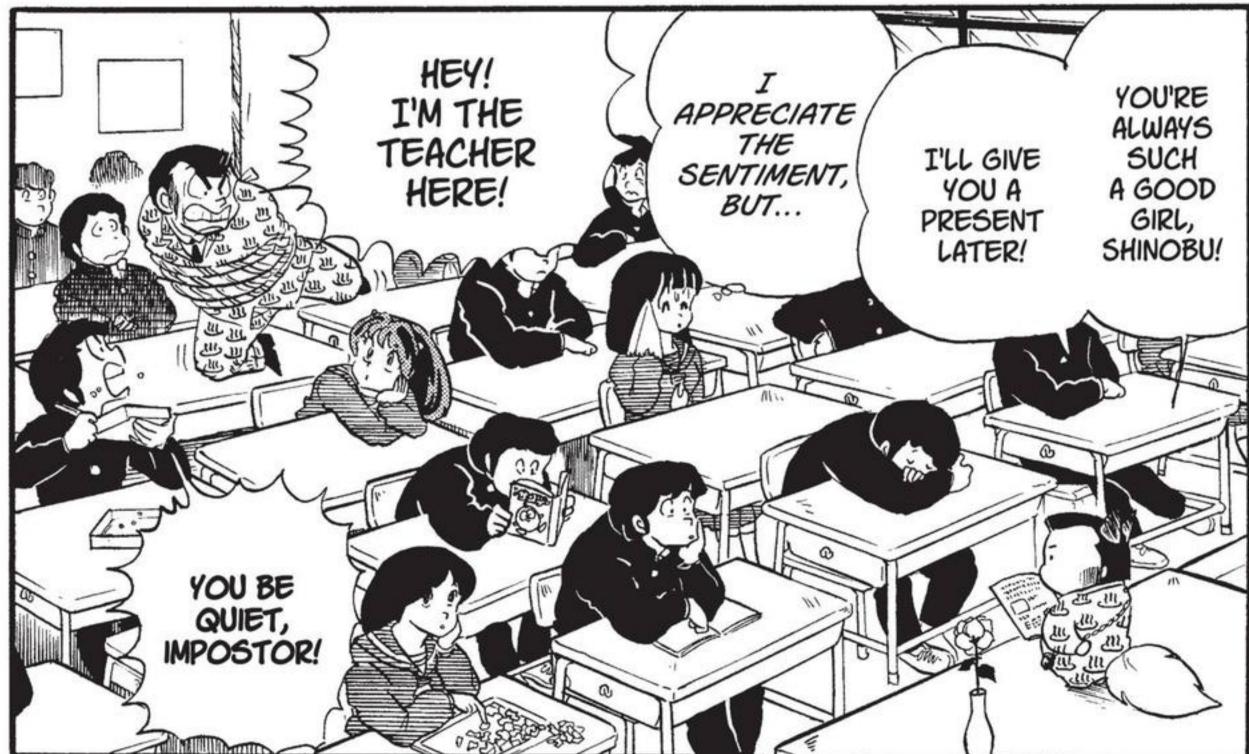












CHAPTER 20: YOUTH RUGBY HELL



































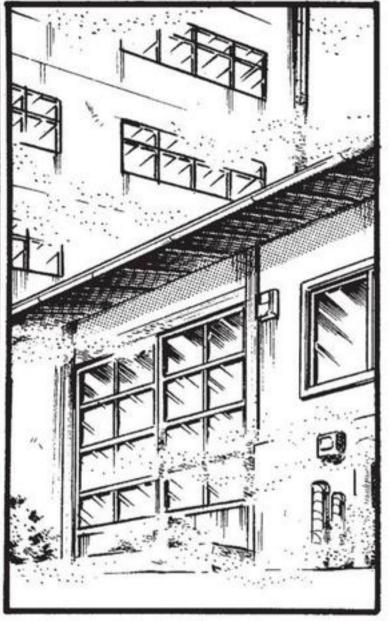






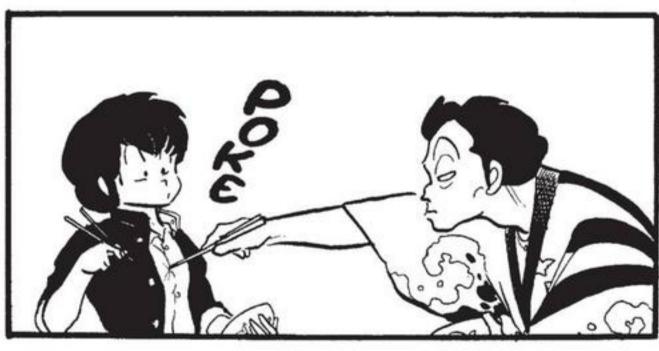


























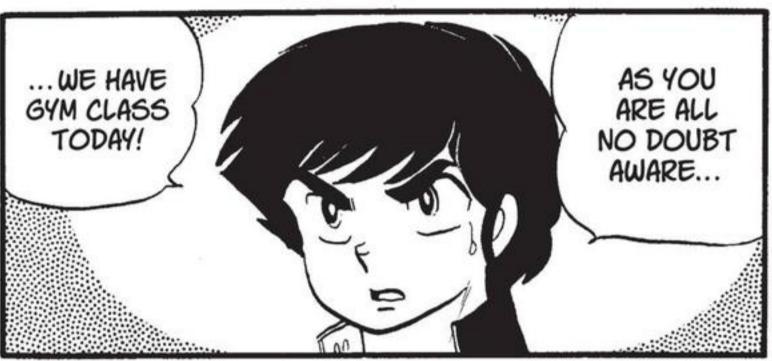








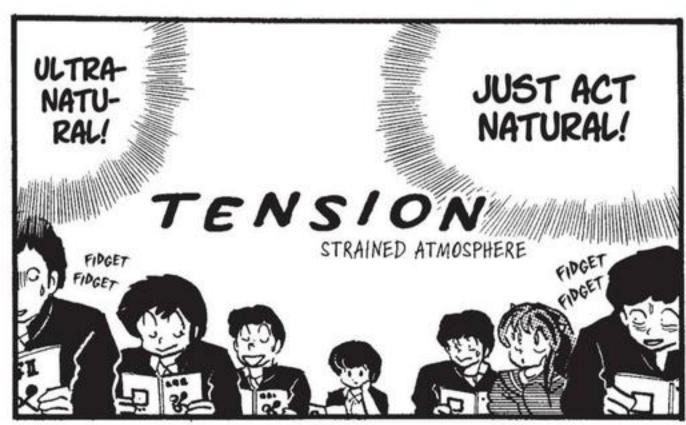














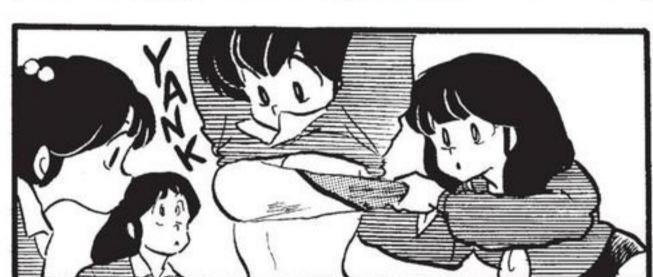










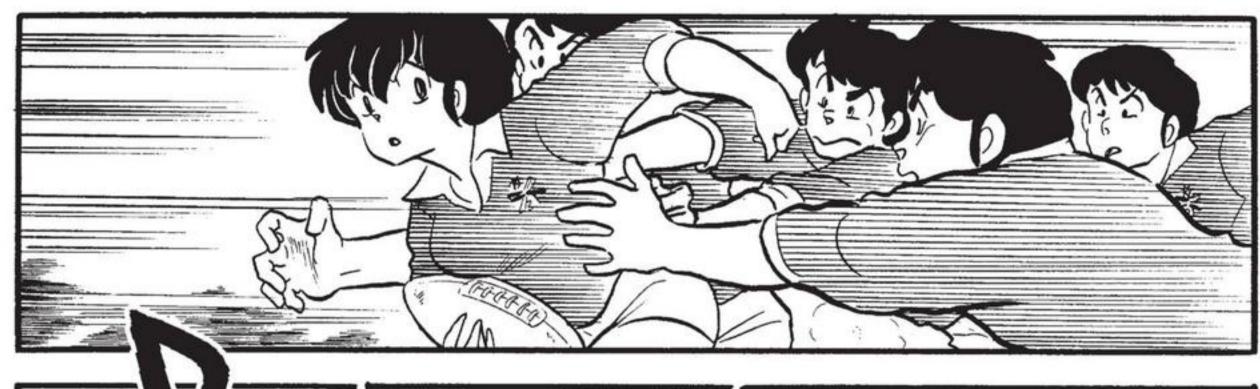
























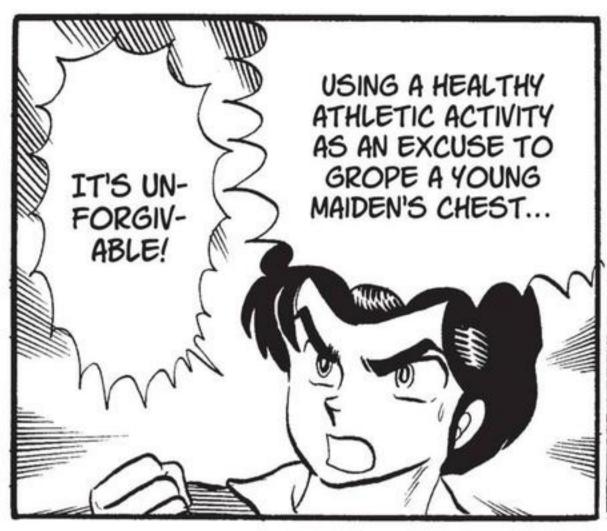








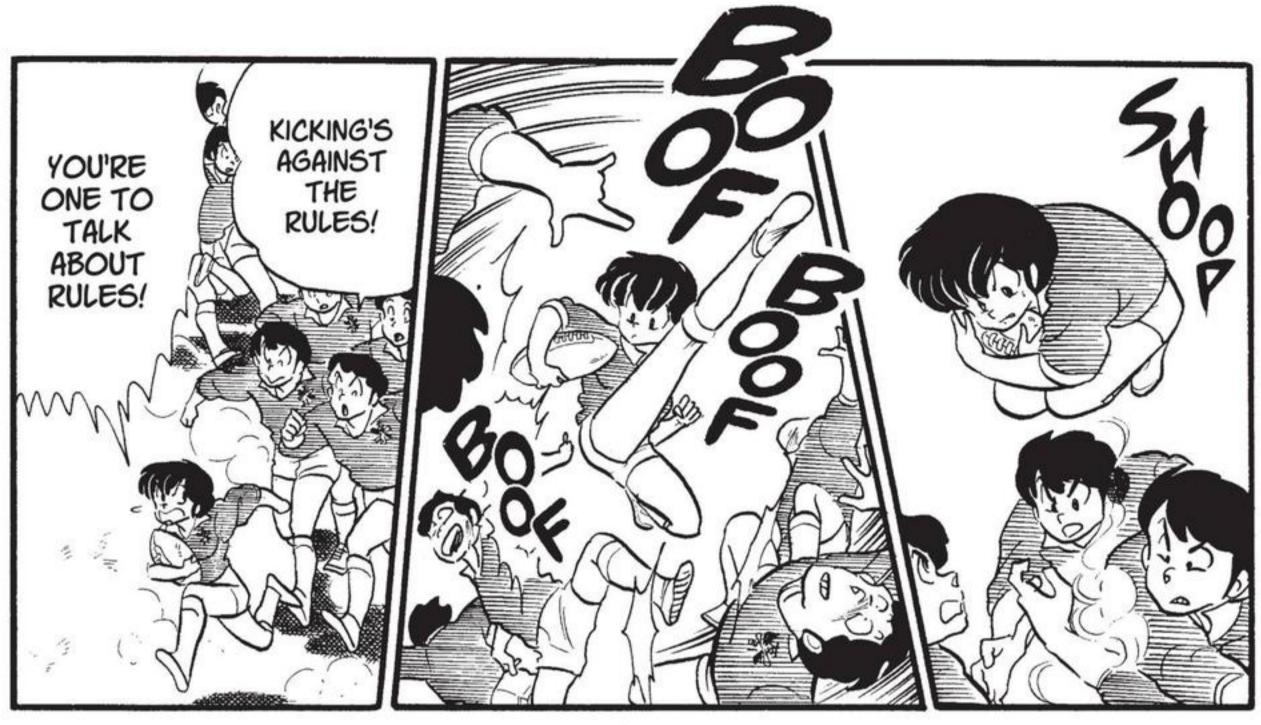




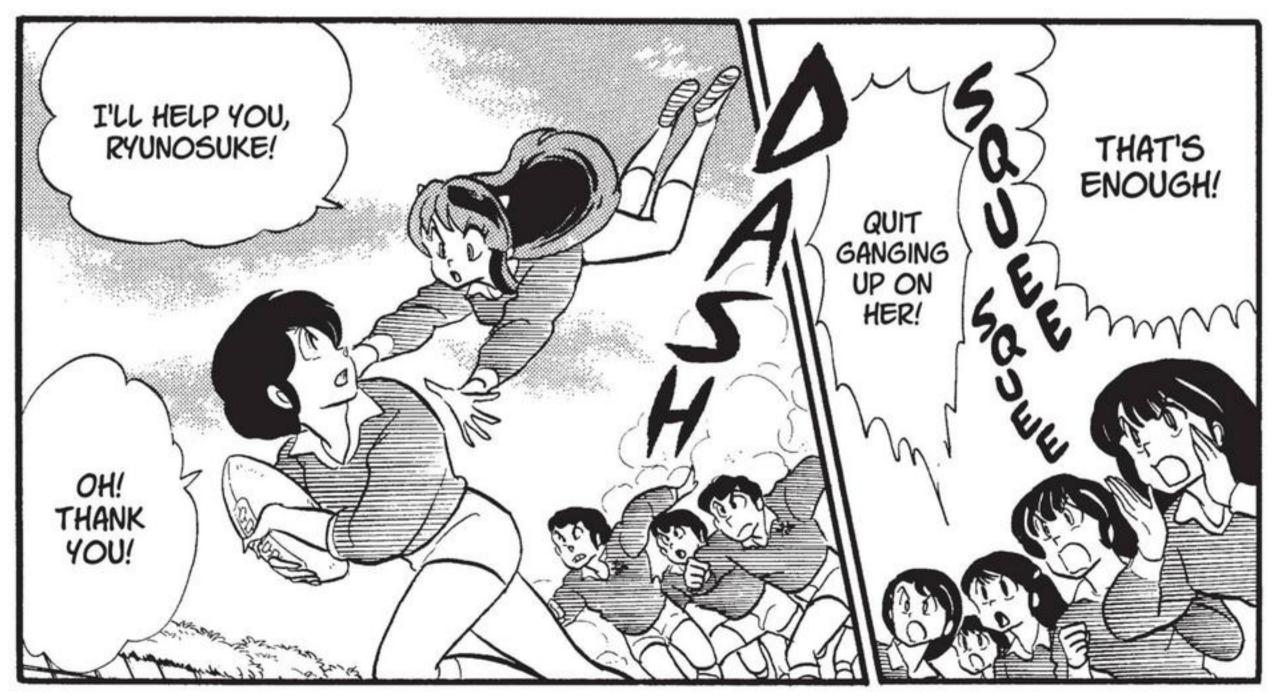


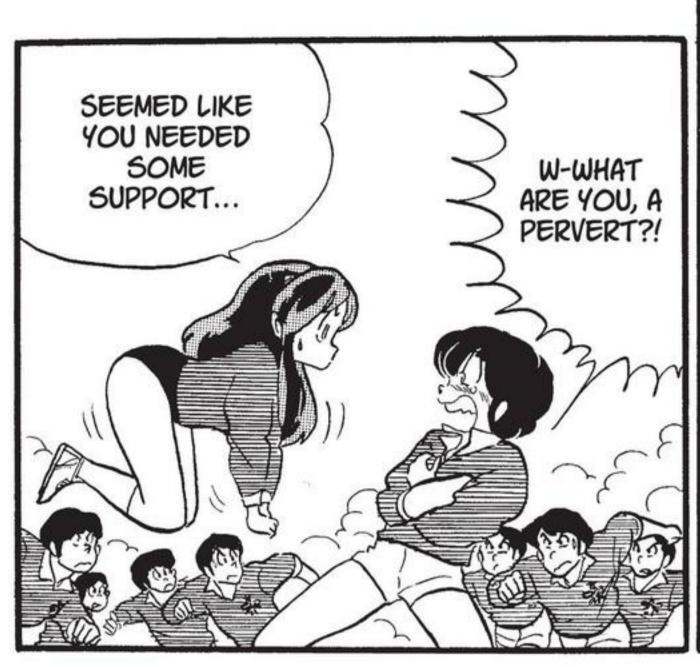


















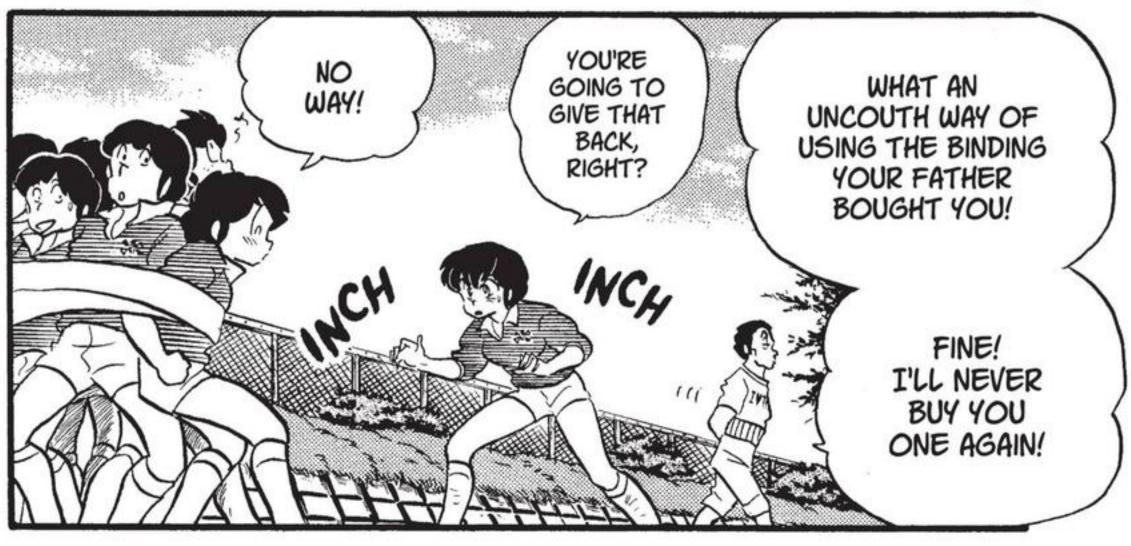






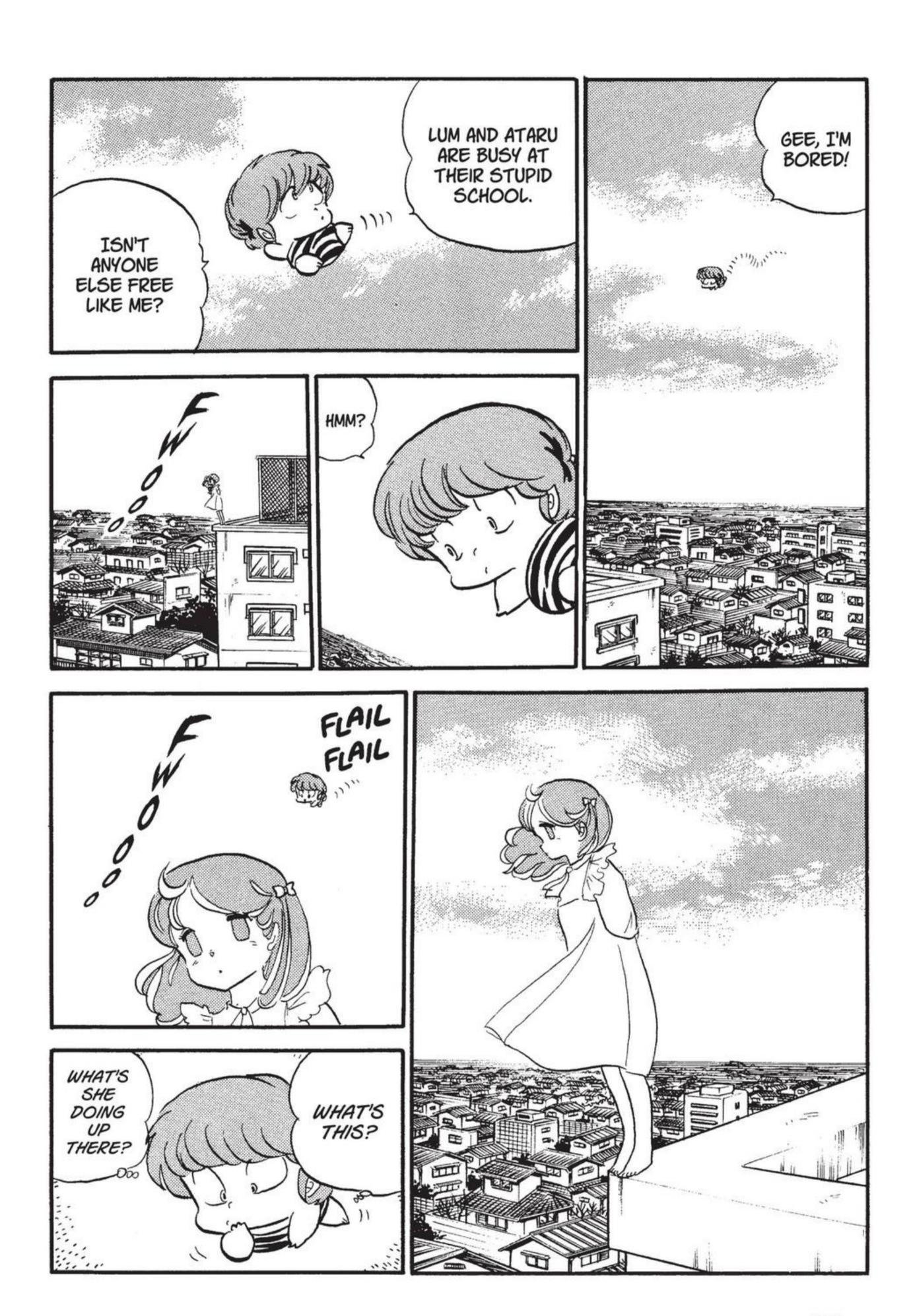


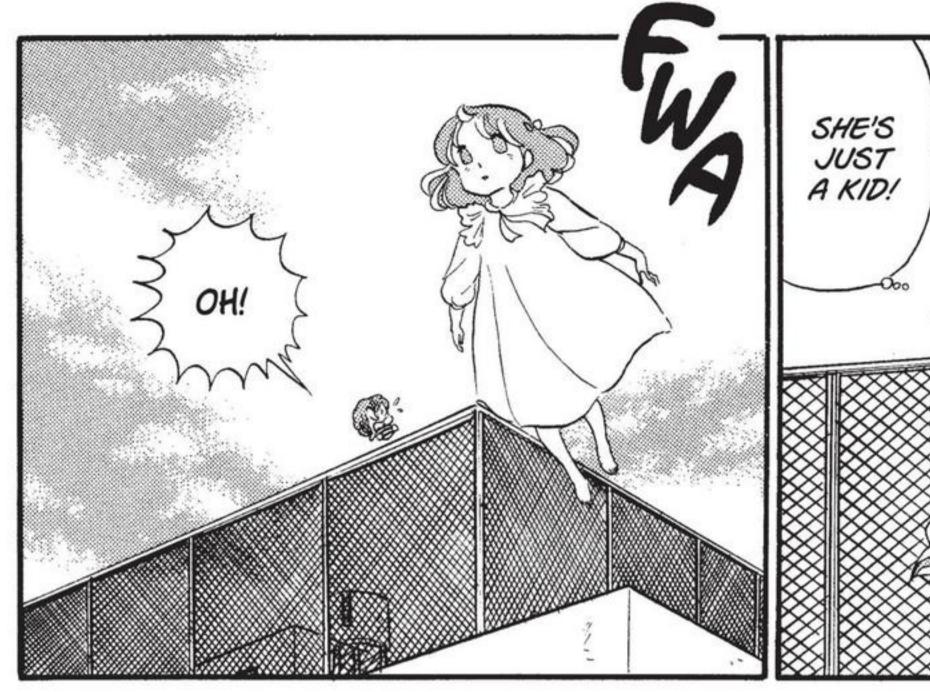




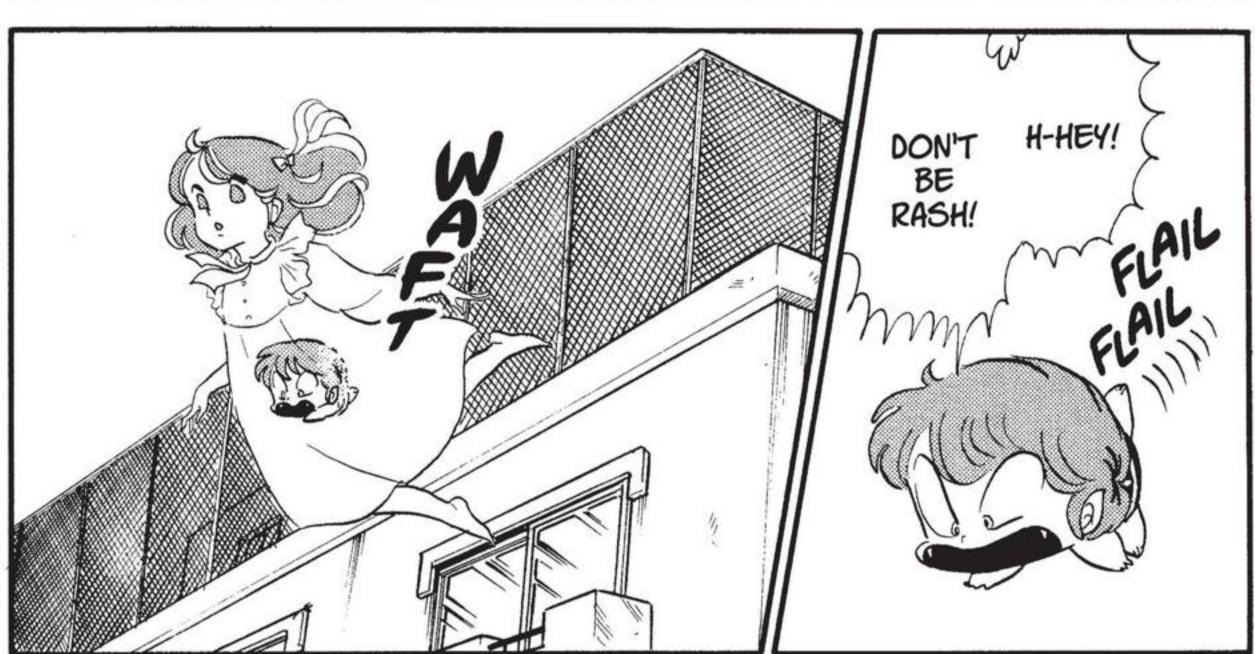
CHAPTER 21: THE FLYING GIRL





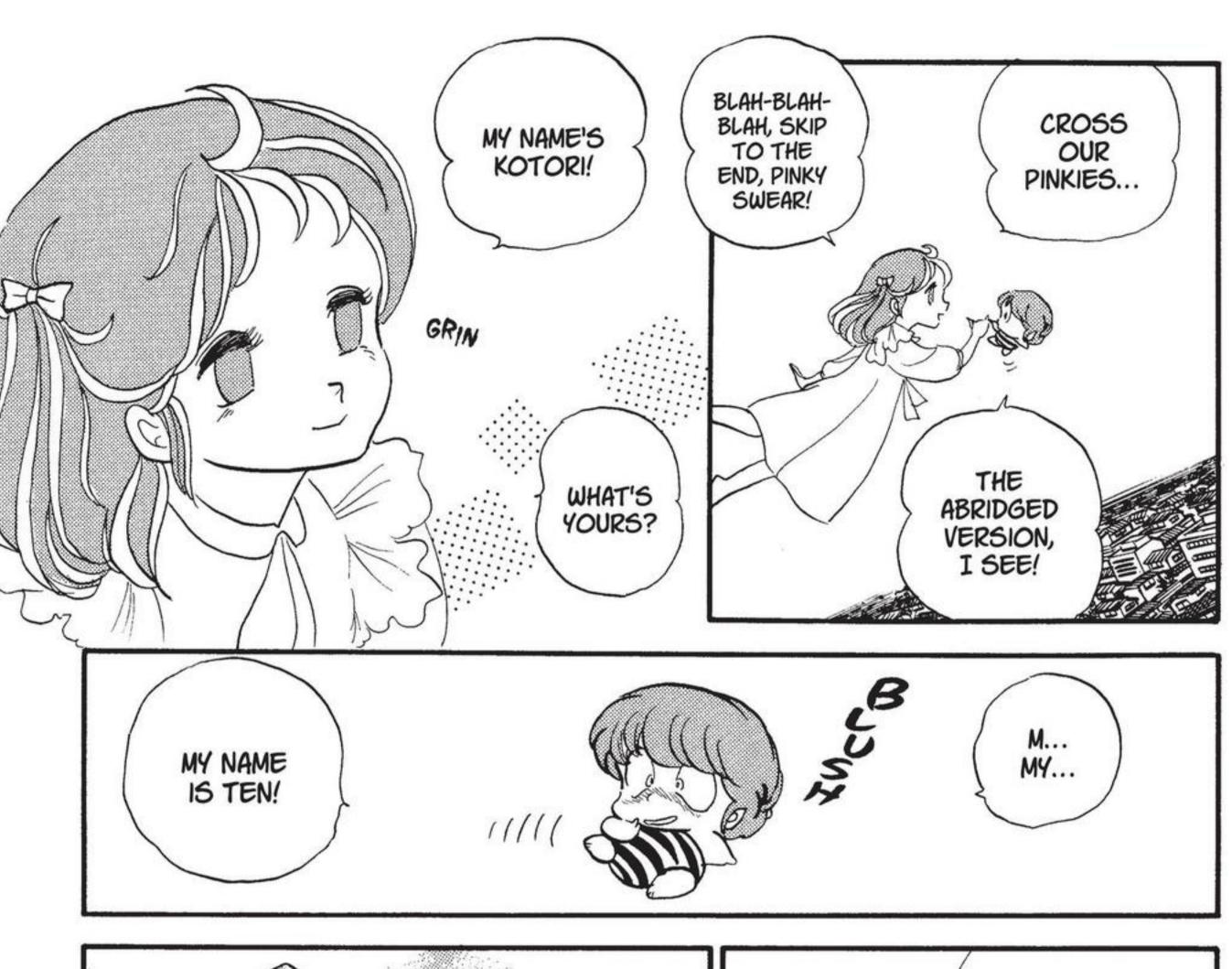


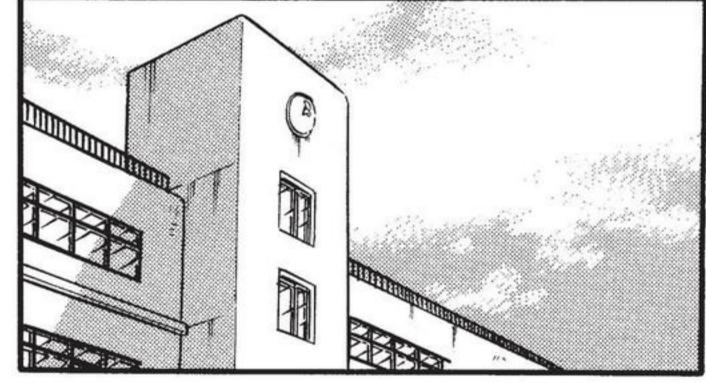


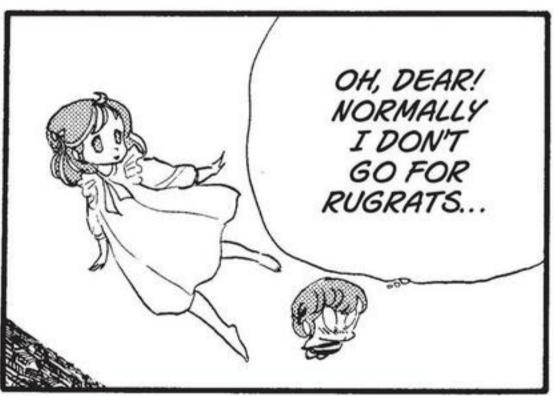


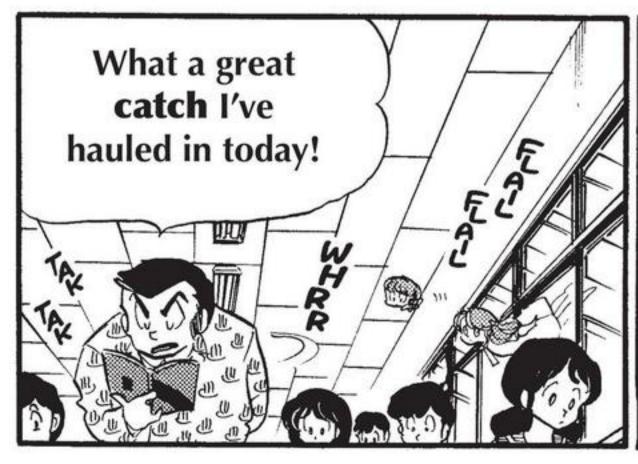
















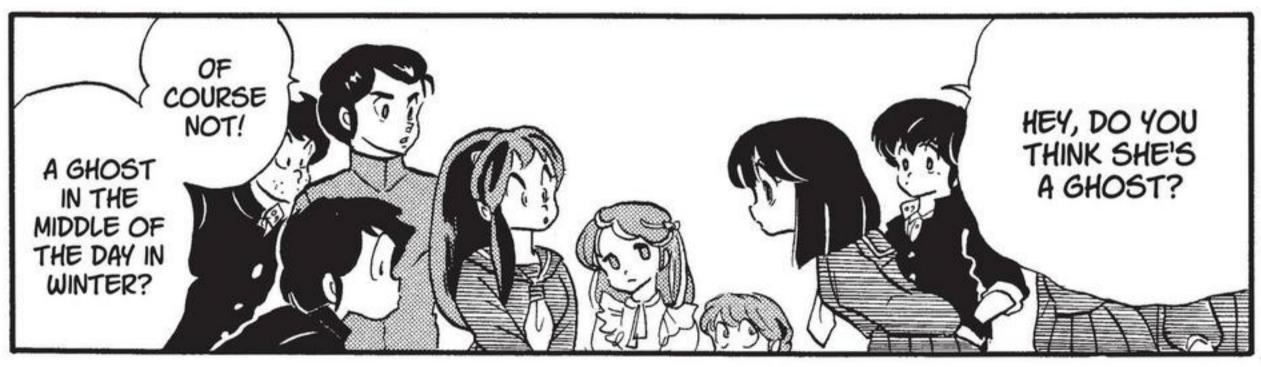


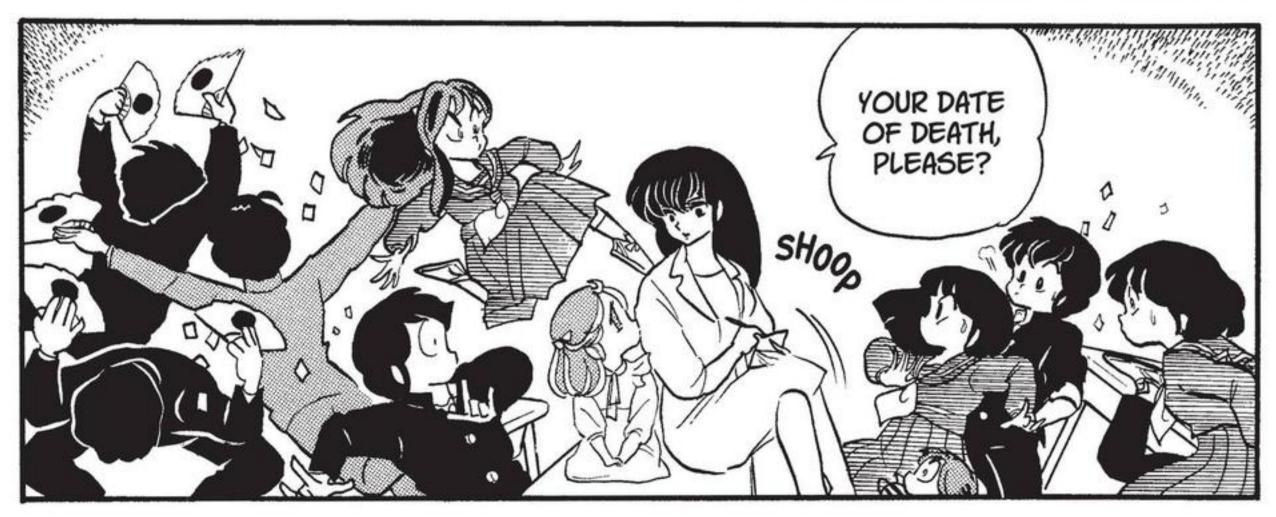




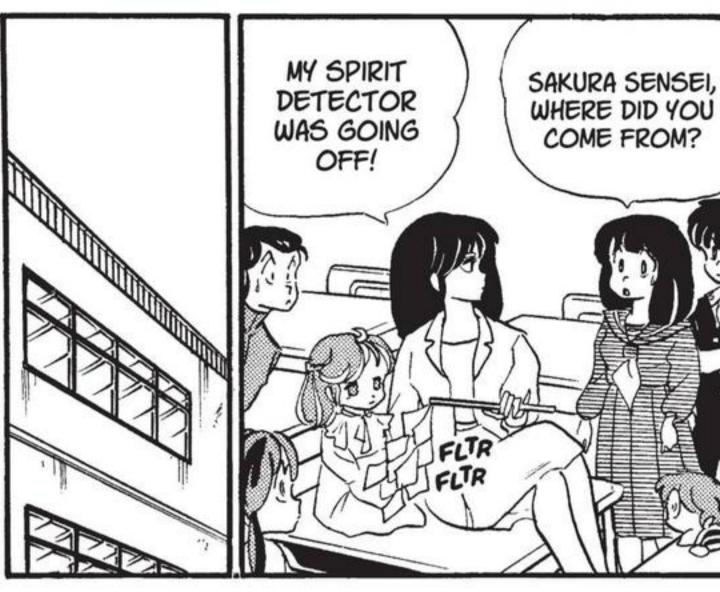


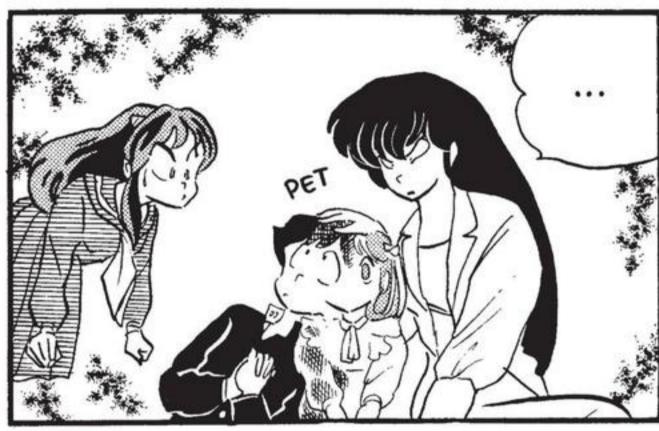














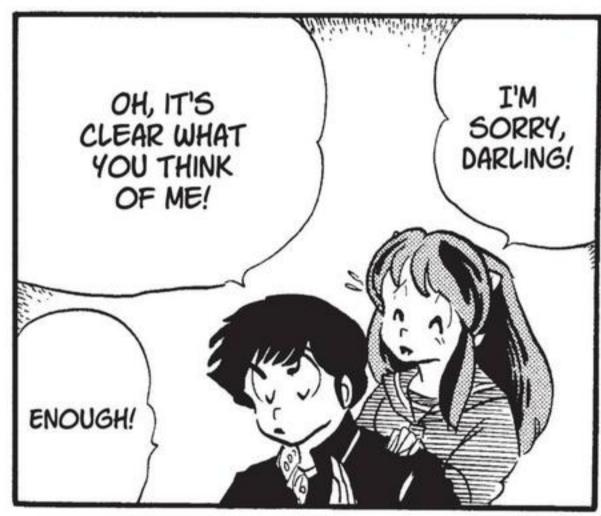
COME FROM?















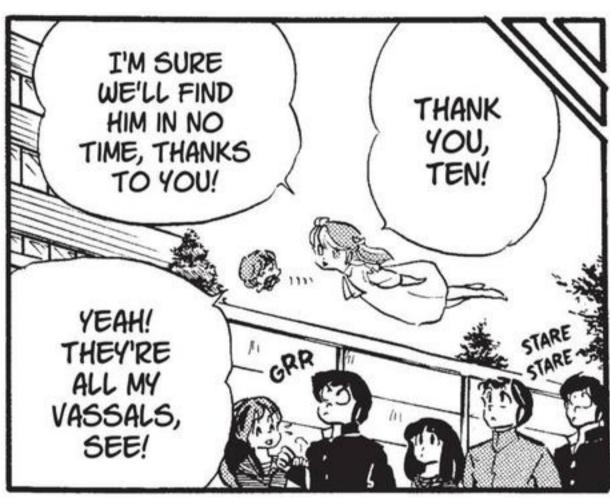








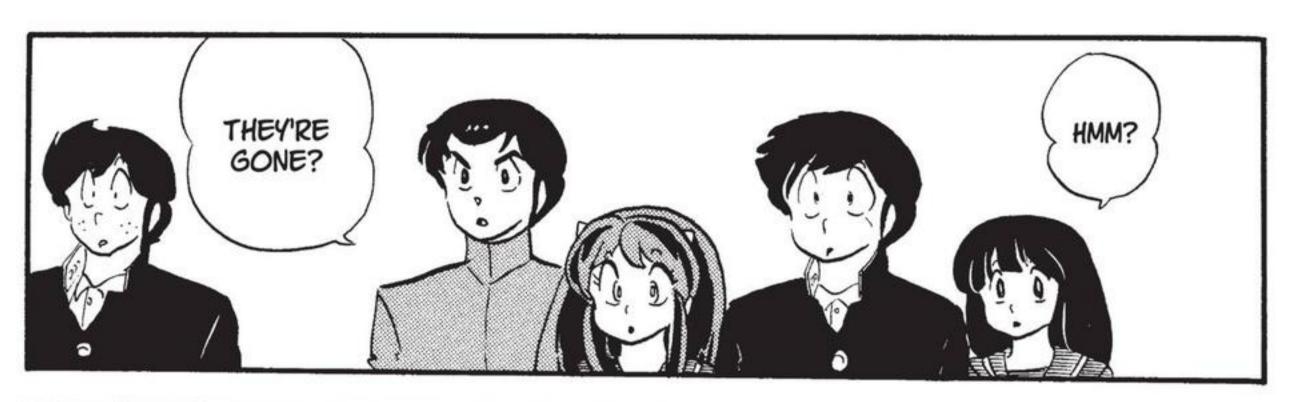






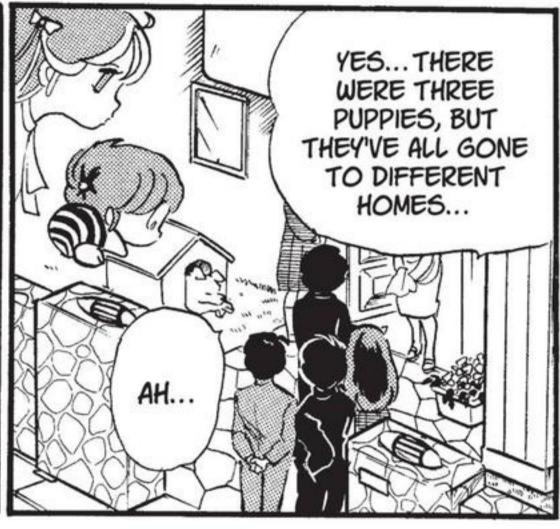


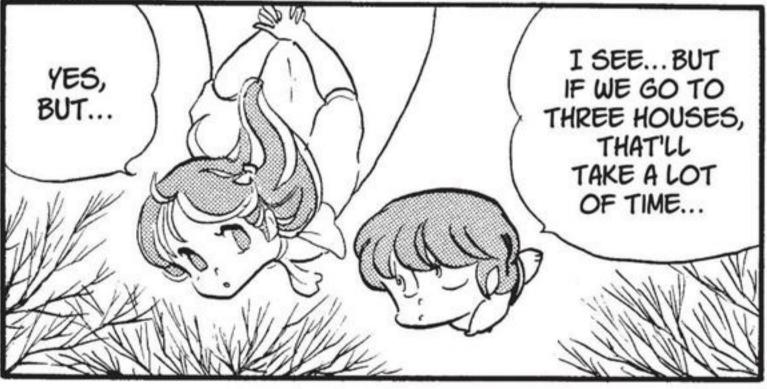


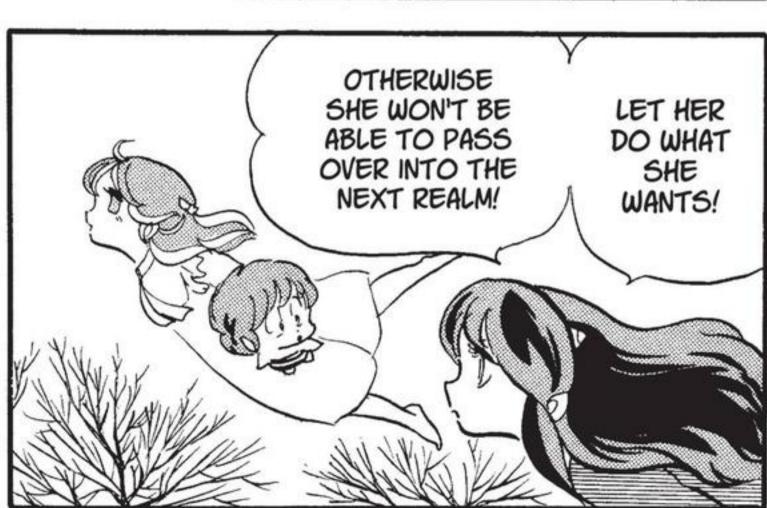














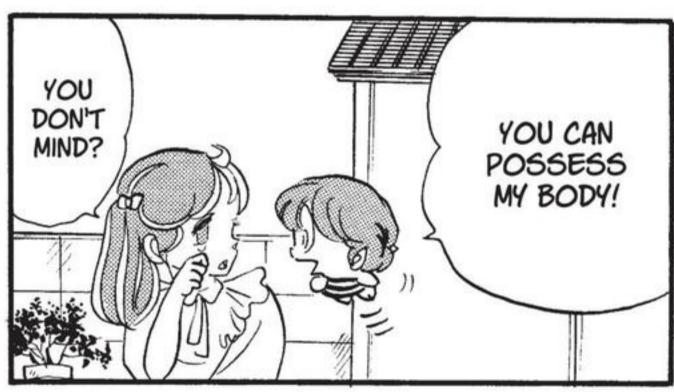




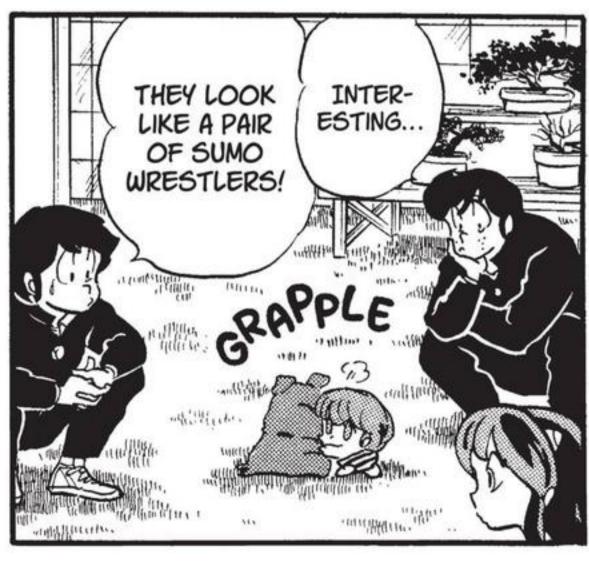






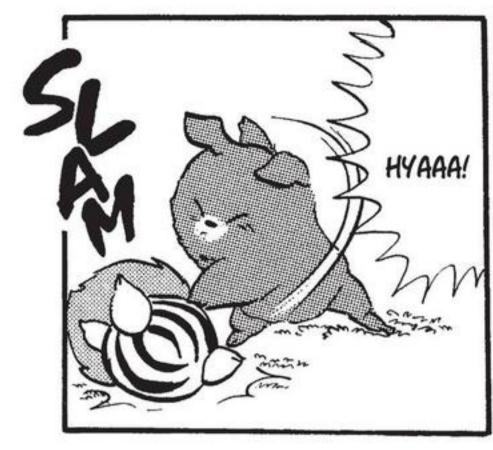








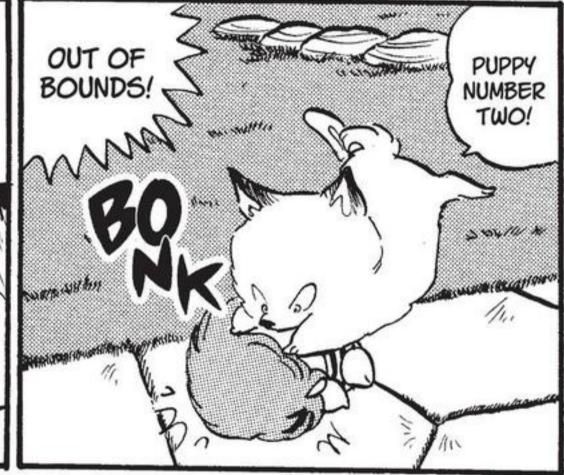














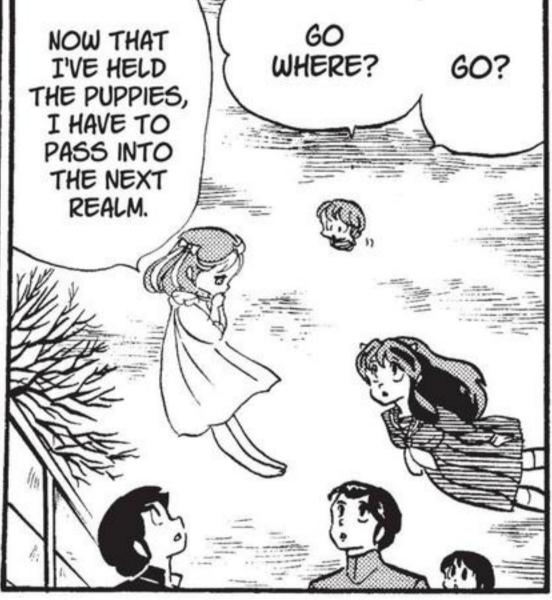




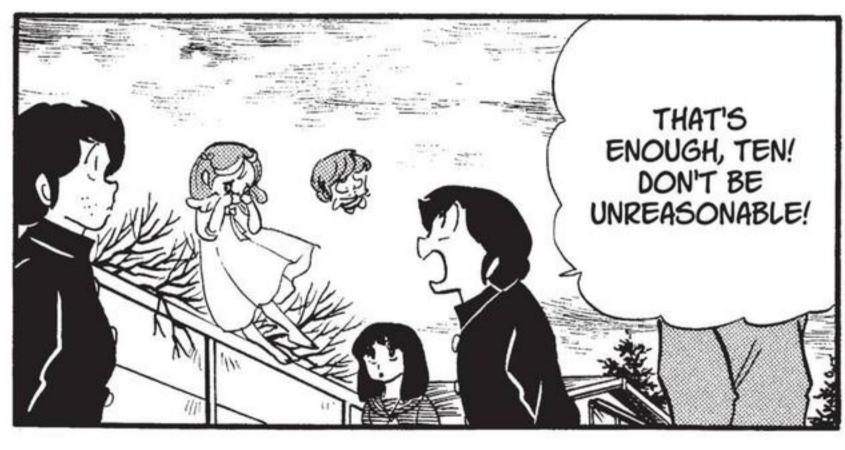










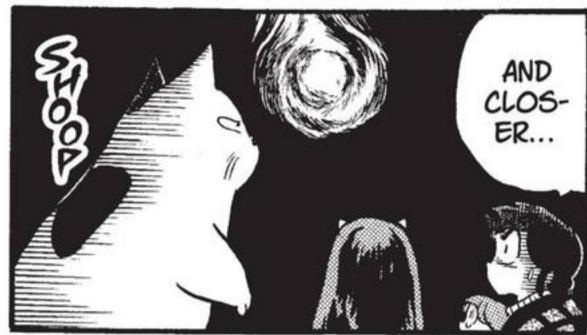










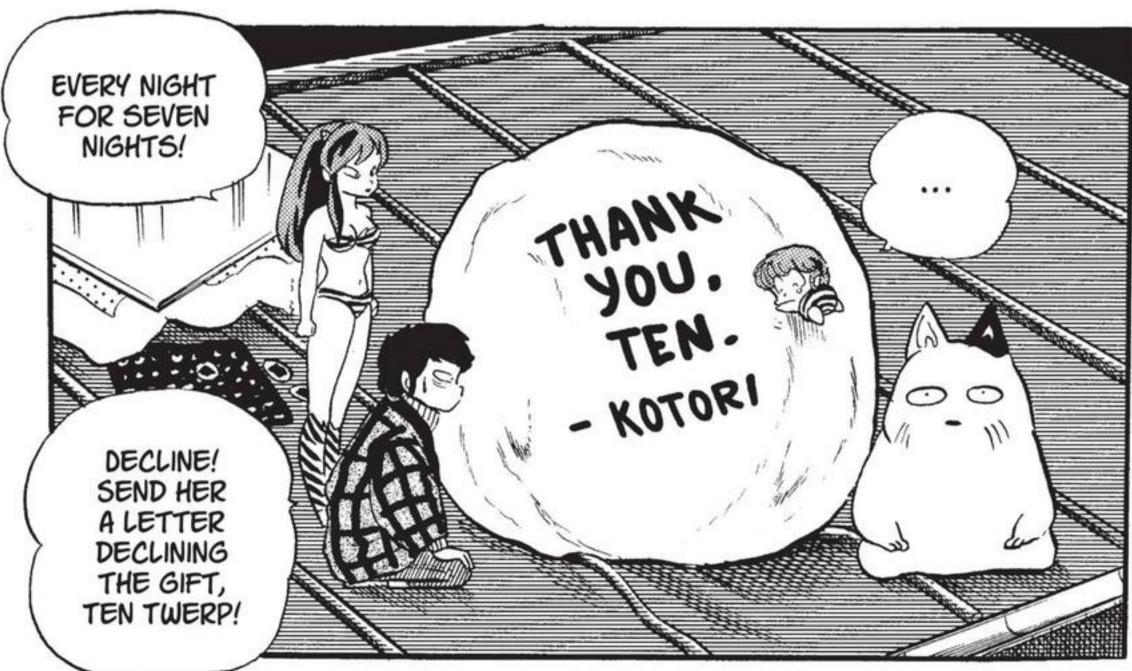








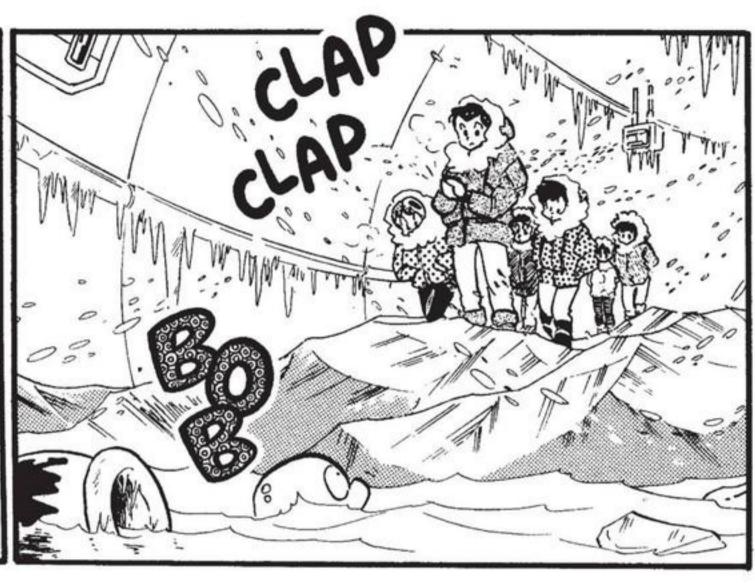






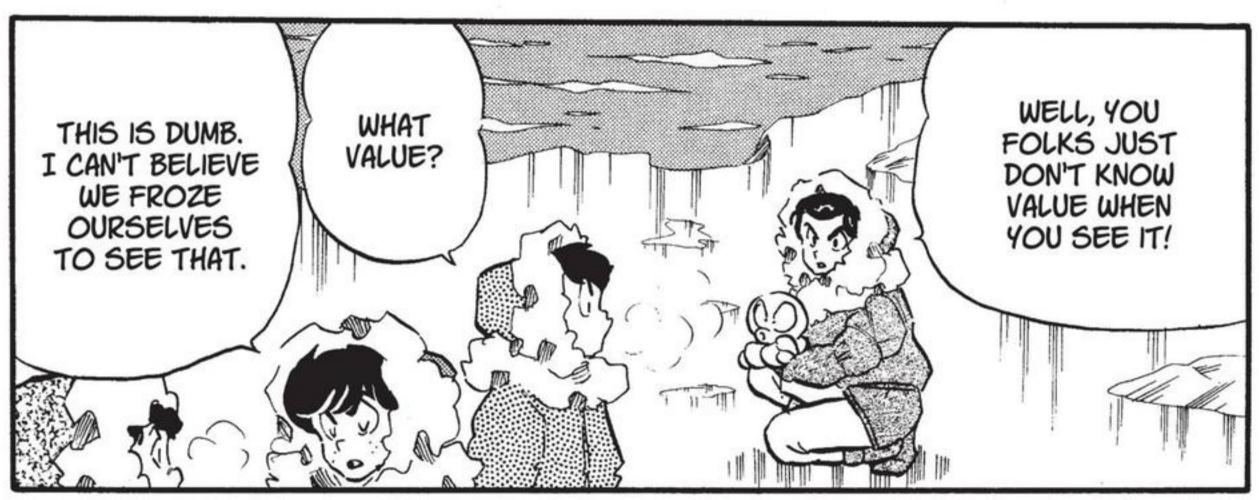
















COULD BE TERRIBLE!









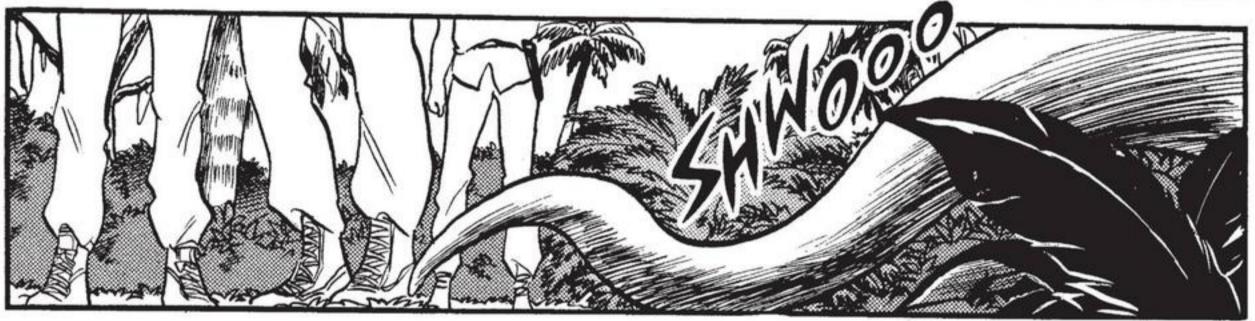


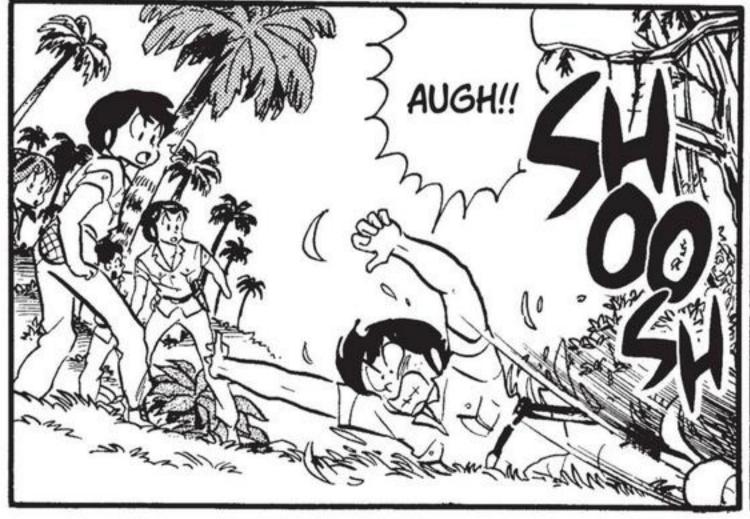




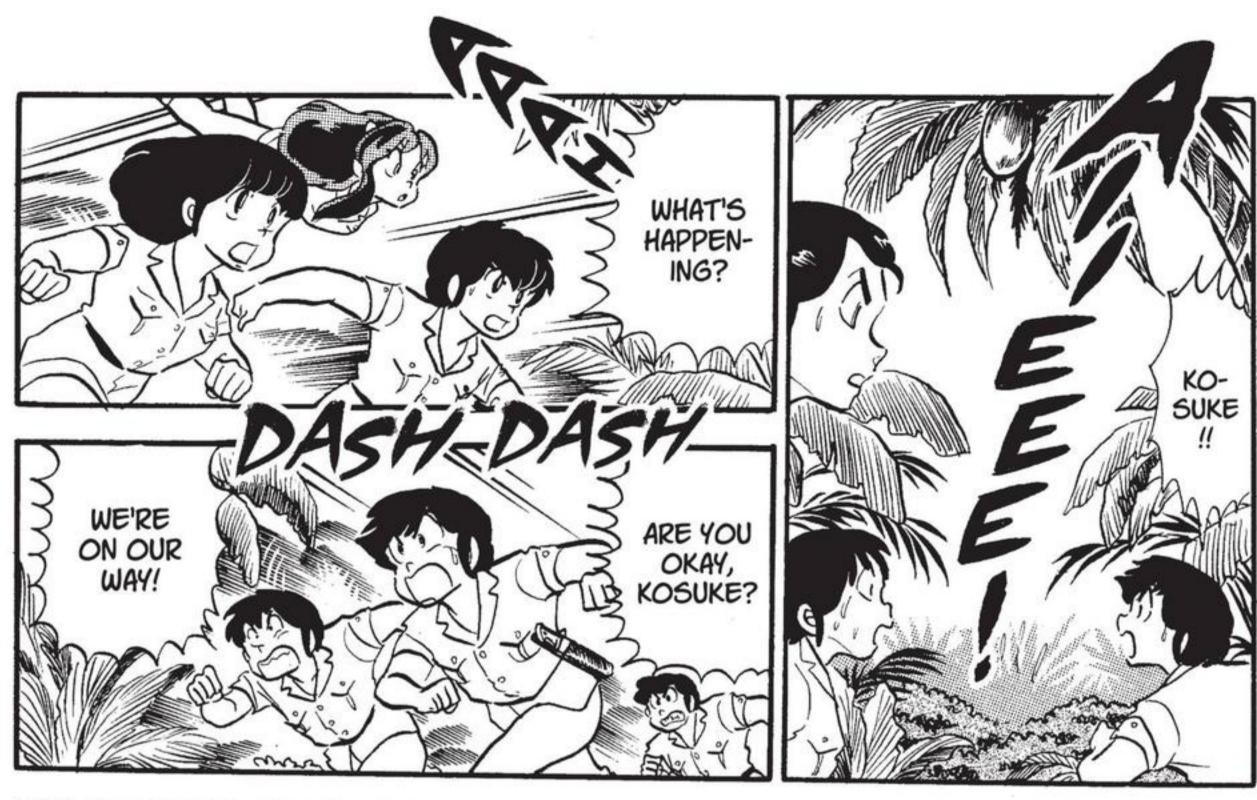


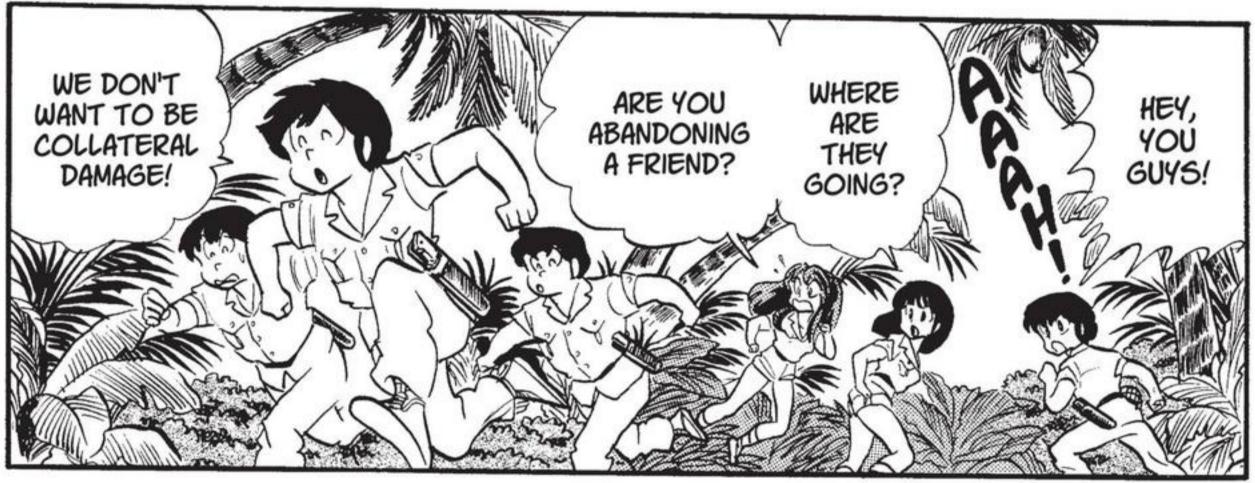


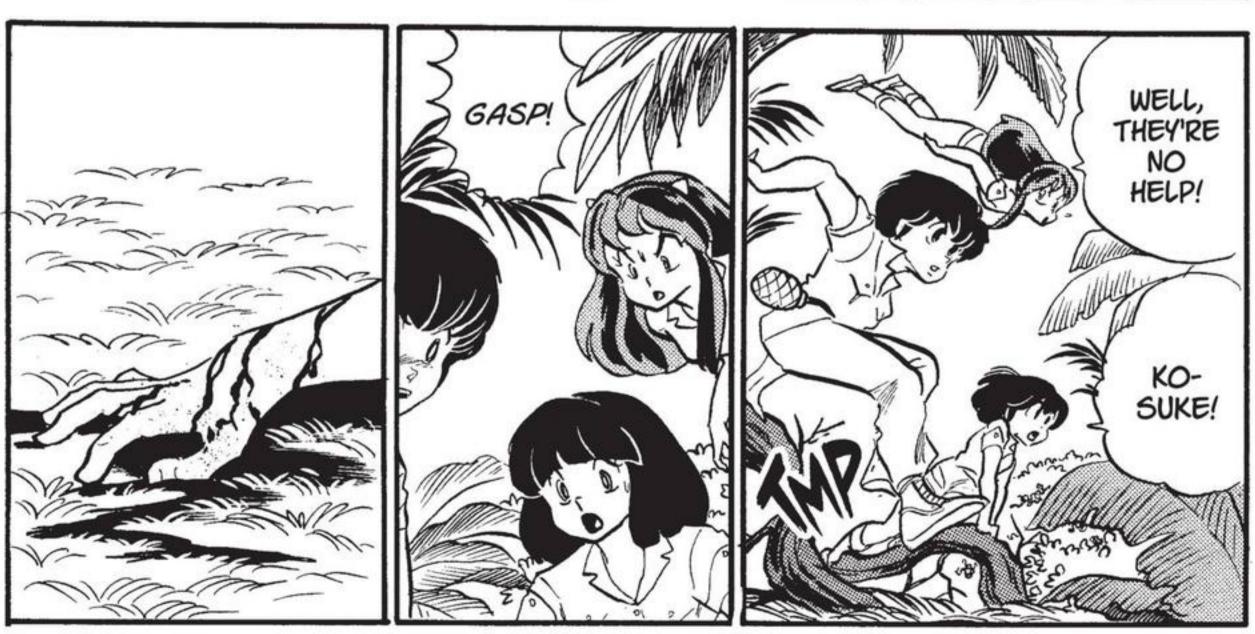




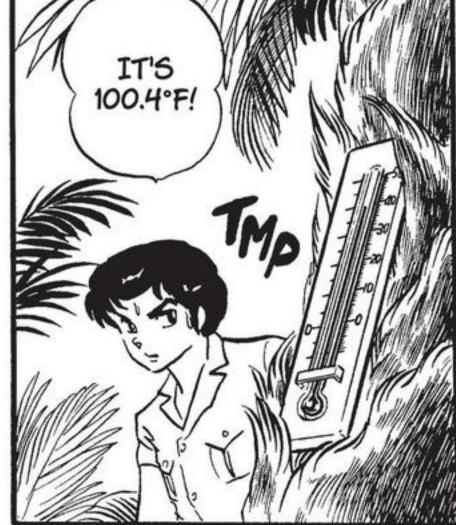












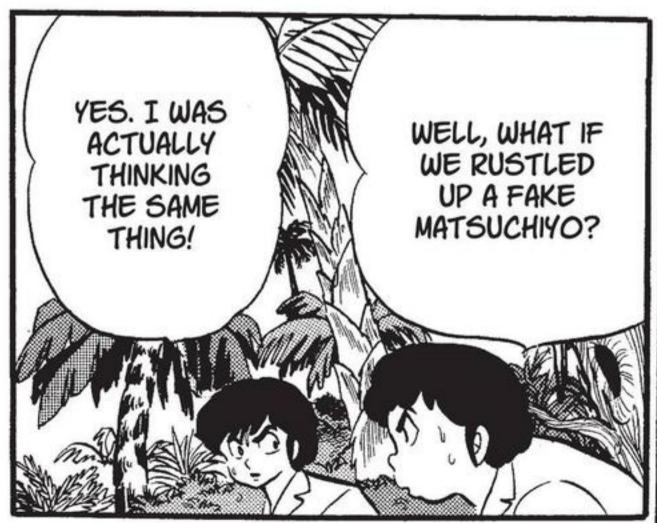














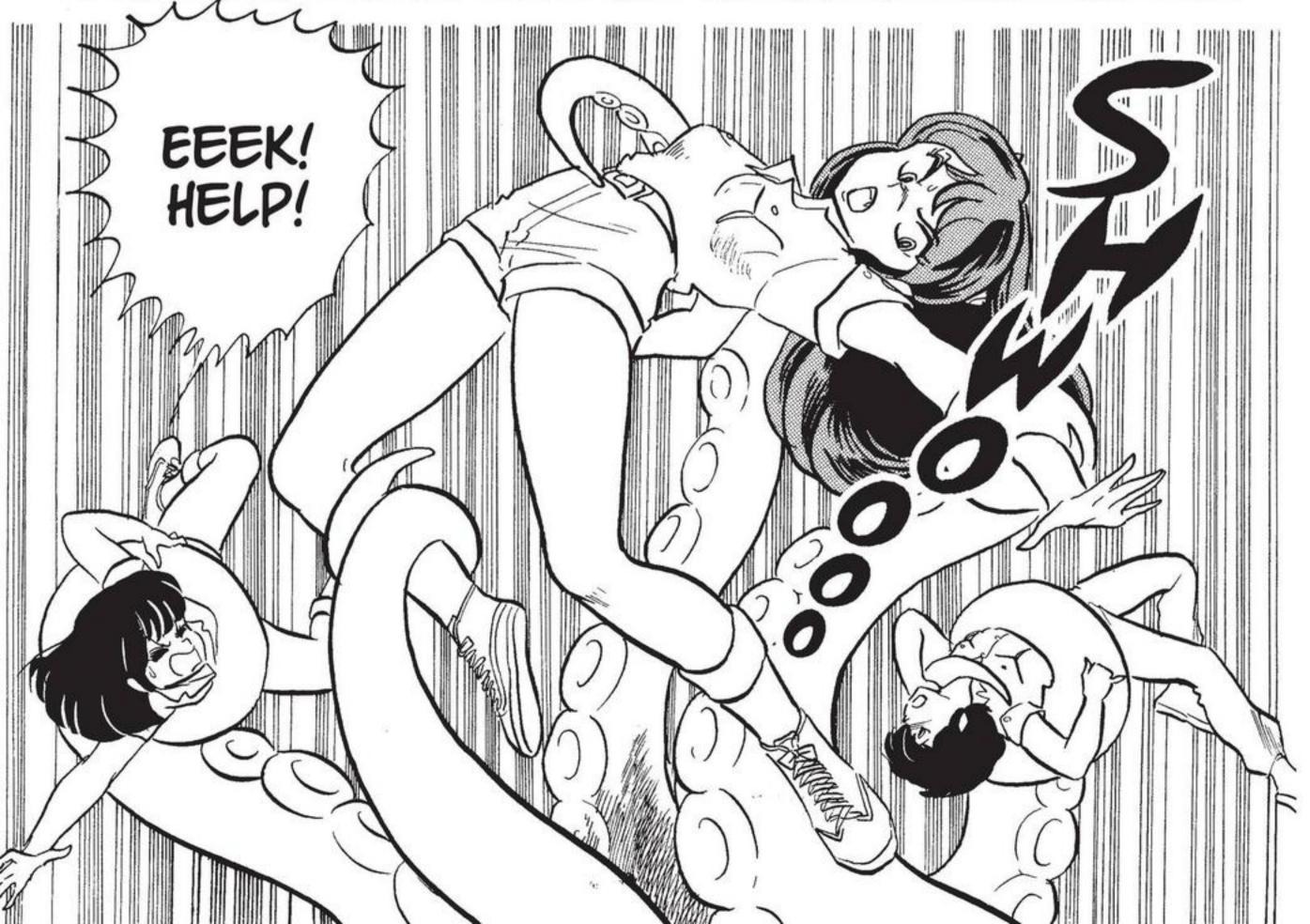


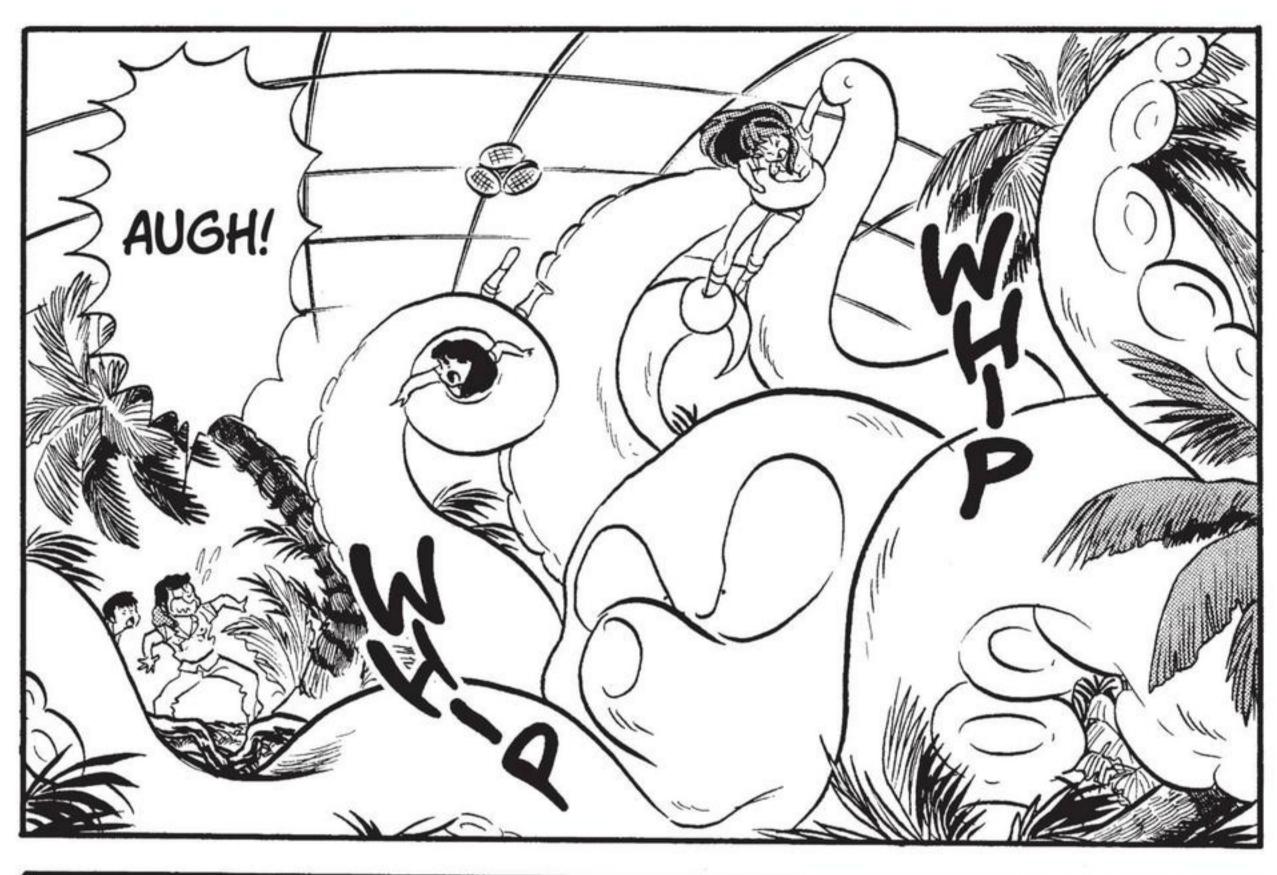






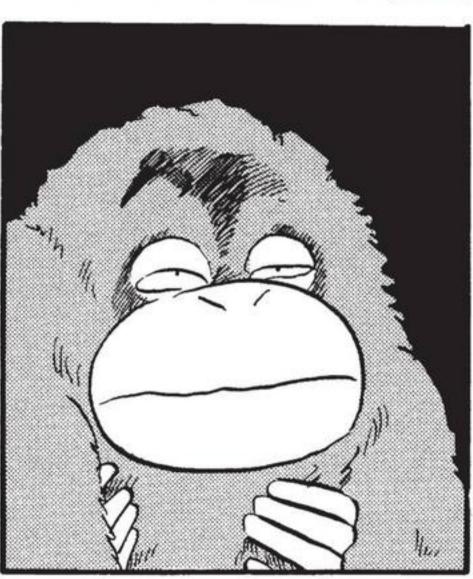




















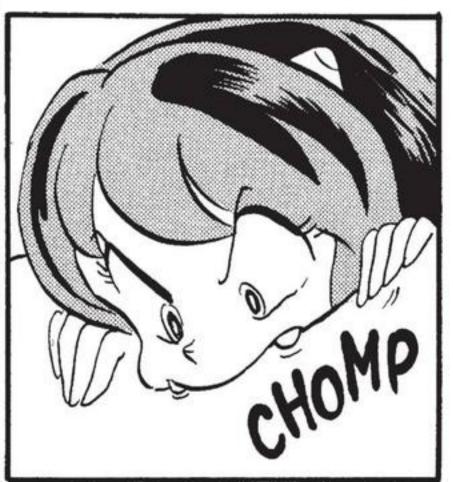










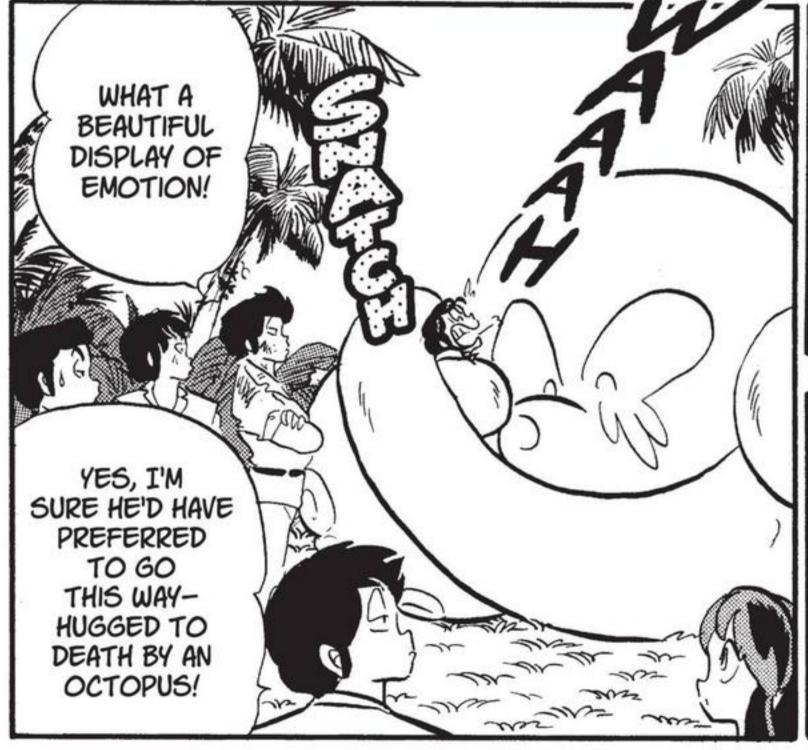




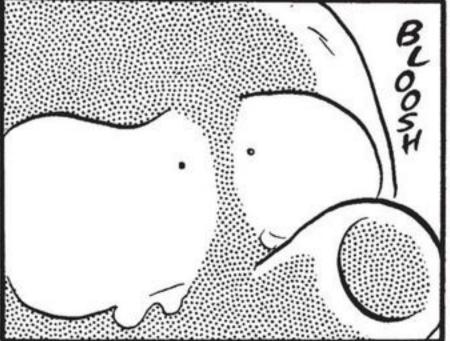












URUSEI YATSURA ★ DATA FILE 20

Shutaro and Ryoko: Hidden Fraternal Love!

The Mendo siblings always seem to be fighting, but behind that bellicose facade is the powerful—if warped—fraternal love of an older brother for his younger sister!

Ryoko Mendo is an extreme younger sister, terrorizing her brother with diverse shenanigans such as bringing him lunch via a three-day oxcart journey so all the food goes bad (volume 6, chapter 19 "Mendo Siblings! Part 1"), entombing him alive in cement (volume 10, chapter 12 "Love Letter Trouble—Part 1") and even making a voodoo doll in his likeness (volume 11, chapter 20 "Ooh, Scary! Voodoo Doll").

Despite Ryoko's behavior toward her older brother, Shutaro's violent opposition to Ryoko dating either Ataru or Ton serves



YOUR SISTER ACTS OUT BY SETTING OFF BOMBS?!



▲ Does Ryoko just want her big brother's attention? (volume 11, chapter 1 "Secret Spot! Palatial Cake of Horrors")

The first time Ryoko comes to Tomobiki High, she claims to be Shutaro's fiancée, causing all the girls in the class to burst into tears. Ryoko seems pleased, remarking, "I see you're quite popular with the ladies, big brother!" (volume 6, chapter 19 "The Mendo Siblings! Part I"). This suggests that she doesn't truly dislike her big brother—she just wants his attention.

STUDY 2

Brotherly Love ②

Little Sister Envy



Shutaro is the first-born son and heir to the Mendo business conglomerate, and we frequently catch glimpses of the strict upbringing that has been imposed on him as a result of his position in the family.

Shutaro's mother discouraged him as a child from exploring the night shops at the local festival, admonishing, "You're not interested in such vulgarities, are you?" (volume 10, chapter 6 "Oh, Night Shops!"). Even as a high schooler, he isn't allowed the freedom to enjoy a simple cup of instant noodles (volume 15, chapter 21 "Invitation to Another World").

By contrast, as the younger sibling and a girl, Ryoko was raised with a great deal more freedom. She blasts a 57-meter-tall Christmas tree into space (volume 8, chapter 17 "The Wild Christmas Tree Party!") and sets off fireworks in Shutaro's mouth (volume 12, chapter 10 "Battle: A Mendo Family Fireworks Event"). The fact that Ryoko feels able to explore such unorthodox activities is a testament to the relative permissiveness of her upbringing.



▲ A young Shutaro is taught to curb his desires (volume 10, chapter 6 "Oh, Night Shops!")



STUDY 1

Brotherly Love ①

The Ideal Combo

"I'm smart, athletic, good-looking...I've got a ton going for me!" Shutaro Mendo exclaims unabashedly to his classmates (volume 2, chapter 18 "Magic Running"). Shutaro is a paragon of a walking ego. And given his vanity, it seems reasonable to assume that he takes a certain pride in his beautiful younger sister, even if her personality is somewhat problematic.

Fraternal affections have their own unique dynamics, as characterized by the expressions "big brother complex" and "little sister complex." Boys who only have an older sister or younger brother must always harbor some longing for that big brother-little sister combination.

Accordingly, Shutaro would never abandon his beloved little sister, no matter how she torments him. The fact that he tolerates all of her nefarious schemes is proof positive of that. For her part, Ryoko considers Shutaro an idiot of the same caliber as Ataru(volume 2, chapter 6 "Zodiac Cycles"). But perhaps as a big brother, he is not such a bad guy.



◆ Of course
Mendo doesn't
mind his sister's
good looks
(volume 6, chapter
19 "Mendo
Siblings! Part 1)



▲ Unlike her brother, Ryoko has been raised with a great deal of freedom (volume 10, chapter 12 "Love Letter Trouble, Part 1")

In one of their conflicts, the Mendo siblings trade insults via fireworks shot into the night sky (volume 12, chapter 10 "Battle: A Mendo Family Fireworks Event").

An outsider might wonder why these siblings have such intense fights. But remember, Shutaro and Ryoko are scions of the Mendo conglomerate, with a net worth of 50 billion yen. We can assume that they have indulged in expensive, time-consuming and energy-intensive fights since childhood.

In other words, these extravagant, dangerous battles are everyday occurrences for the Mendo children, and are of no more account than more ordinary sibling spats.

They genuinely have a loving, ideal brother-and-sister relationship. The scale is just on a different order of magnitude from the common folk, for whom their fights are quite a nuisance!



▲ The siblings are definitely two of a kind! (volume 12, chapter 10 "Battle: A Mendo Family Fireworks Event")



Because of these factors, there has been a great discrepancy between the upbringings of the two Mendo siblings. For Shutaro, Ryoko symbolizes a level of freedom he will never have access too.

In conclusion, Shutaro is able to live vicariously through the free-spirited Ryoko, and in a sense, she represents an existence that he yearns for.

STUDY 3

Brotherly Love ③

Fighting as Communication

A casual interaction between siblings can easily turn into an argument, which in turn can be simply forgotten the next day, allowing things to go right back to normal.

Fights between the Mendo siblings, however, are hardly a trifling matter. Bombs and land mines are par for the course, and bystanders are prone to become collateral damage in their sibling skirmishes (volume 11, chapter 1 "Secret Spot! Palatial Cake of Horrors").



▲ Armed conflicts are a quotidian occurrence at the Mendo Residence (volume 12, chapter 18 "A Stormy Date, Part 1")

The number of

sword snatches!

barehanded

Anyway

We counted

them up!

At First, Characters Simply Dodge!

When Ataru catches a swordfish by the tip of its nose, he is praised as a "master of the barehanded sword snatch" (volume 14, chapter 7 "Pick Your Fish"). But Ataru hasn't always had that ability. Early on, when Mendo brandishes his katana, Ataru's only defense is to run around dodging the blows (volume 7, chapter 4 "Terror of the Willow Ghost?!") or

to jump out of the way(volume 7, chapter 11 "Mendo Residence Masquerade Ball"). Over time, however, Ataru makes rapid progress on his skills and ultimately pulls off 37 barehanded sword snatches over the course of

the series.

The Sunglasses Squad Is Also Masterful!

Keep in mind Ataru is not the only character who can barehandedly block Mendo's attacks, so another possibility is that Mendo's swordplay is extremely sluggish.

Moreover, the members of the Sunglasses Squad have probably been fielding Mendo's attacks for much longer than Ataru. One manages to disarm Mendo with just the pointer and middle fingers of his right hand (volume 16, chapter 14 "The Octopus Flute"). Should we conclude that Mendo's swordsmanship is slow or that the Sunglasses Squad has incredibly sharp reflexes?



▲ Kotatsu Kitty goes as far as to snap the blade in two (volume 13, chapter 6 "In Case of a Cold")

Mendo is even disarmed once by the bare front hooves of a horse! (volume 17, chapter 1 "The Horse and the Young Lady")

Objects of Ataru's bare-handed sword snatches Mendo's Katana (36 times), swordfish (once)

Other characters who perform bare-handed sword snatches
Tobimaro Mizunokoji (once), Hot Springs Emblem (once), Kotastu Kitty (once),
a horse (once), Shingo (once), member of Sunglasses Squad (twice)

Author: Kyoko Sugimori Concept: Masatake Sugimori



Rumiko Takahashi



The spotlight on Rumiko Takahashi's career began in 1978 when she won an honorable mention in Shogakukan's prestigious New Comic Artist Contest for *Those Selfish Aliens*. Later that same year, her boy-meets-alien comedy series, *Urusei Yatsura*, was serialized in *Weekly Shonen Sunday*. This phenomenally successful manga series was adapted into anime format and spawned a TV series and half a dozen theatrical-release movies, all incredibly popular in their own right. Takahashi followed up the success of her debut series with one blockbuster hit after another—*Maison Ikkoku* ran from 1980 to 1987, *Ranma 1/2* from 1987 to 1996, and *Inuyasha* from 1996 to 2008. Other notable works include *Mermaid Saga*, *Rumic Theater*, and *One-Pound Gospel*.

Takahashi was inducted into the Will Eisner Comic Awards Hall of Fame in 2018. In 2019, she won the Grand Prix at FIDB Angoulême. She won the prestigious Shogakukan Manga Award twice in her career, once for Urusei Yatsura in 1981 and the second time for Inuyasha in 2002. Her series have sold over 200 million copies worldwide as of March 2017. A majority of the Takahashi canon has been adapted into other media such as anime, live-action TV series, and film. Takahashi's manga, as well as the other formats her work has been adapted into, have continued to delight generations of fans around the world. Distinguished by her wonderfully endearing characters, Takahashi's work adeptly incorporates a wide variety of elements such as comedy, romance, fantasy, and martial arts. While her series are difficult to pin down into one simple genre, the signature style she has created has come to be known as the "Rumic World." Rumiko Takahashi is an artist who truly represents the very best from the world of manga. Many of her titles, including Mermaid Saga and her current series RIN-NE, are available in North America from VIZ Media.



URUSEI YATSURA

VIZ Signature Edition Vol. 10

STORY AND ART BY

RUMIKO TAKAHASHI

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